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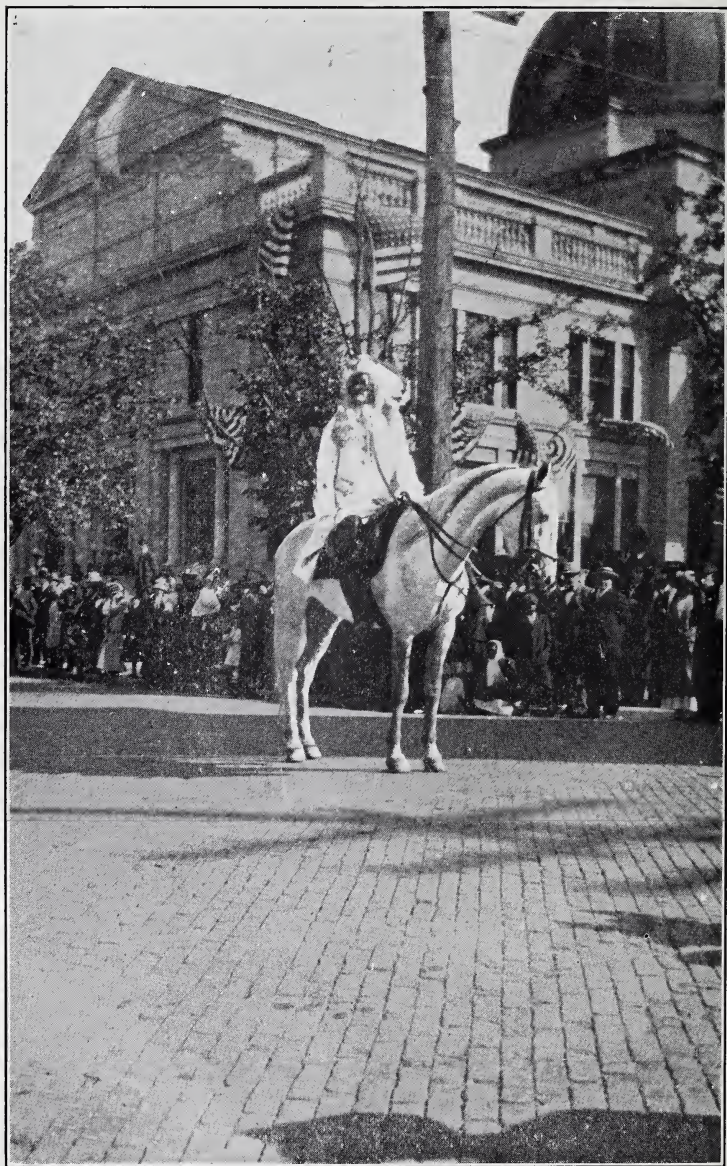
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Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

The Captain-Director before the Court House of Montgomery County.

NORRISTOWN, Pa.

1812-1912

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BOROUGH OF NORRISTOWN, MEMORIAL-
IZING ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY, TOGETHER WITH
MAPS SHOWING THE COMPLETE EVOLUTION OF THE
BOROUGH AND VIEWS OF THE TOWN IN THE DRESS OF ITS FIRST
CENTENNIAL, GROUPS OF CITIZENS, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,
AND SCENES FROM THE FIRST HISTORICAL PAGEANT.

By

REV. THEODORE HEYSHAM, Ph. D.



MEMORIAL EDITION

ILLUMINATED

1913

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By THEODORE HEYSHAM.

NORRISTOWN HERALD PRINTERS

1213414

To the members of the Historical Society of Montgomery County, who honored me with their call and inspired me by their confidence to take up the task which has culminated in this memorial;

To the large-hearted citizens of the Borough of Norristown, who by their generosity awakened within me the feelings of obligation for the performance of this duty;

To the noble pathfinders in the footsteps of our fathers, those patient investigators in the fields of local history, who by their labors have made me their debtor;

To the silent partner of all life's enterprises, and not the least in all the responsibilities terminating in this one, my wife;

To these, one and all, this volume is

DEDICATED

In reverence, in sincerity, in love, and sent forth to the
generations of to-day and to the generations
of to-morrow as a

MEMORIAL

OF THE

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

BOROUGH OF NORRISTOWN.

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INTRODUCTION.

"Fervet Opus." This is the ideal set us by the Fathers of Norristown for the inhabitants thereof. It is a noble ideal. Literally it means, "Let Labor Glow." This ideal enlarged would be, "Let the Fires of Life be Revealed in the Enterprises of Life." Such an ideal gives dignity to labor and meaning to life. Labor yields satisfaction to him who labors only as the laborer puts a purpose into his labor. Purposeless toil is slavery. It was the thought of the Fathers that the laborer should see himself in his labor and find his highest joy in achievement. Thus and thus only, should Norristown become the Home of the Happy.

A double purpose is involved in the presentation of this little volume to the public. First, it is a memorial, a memorial of the one hundredth anniversary of the Borough of Norristown to be passed on to the generations that shall come after. As a memorial, it will grow in value with the growing years. One hundred years hence, those who seek to memorialize the achievements of their Fathers will turn to its pages with interest and profit. And in that day when the achievements of a Greater Norristown shall be memorialized, the Norristown of to-day will rejoice in spirit and not be ashamed.

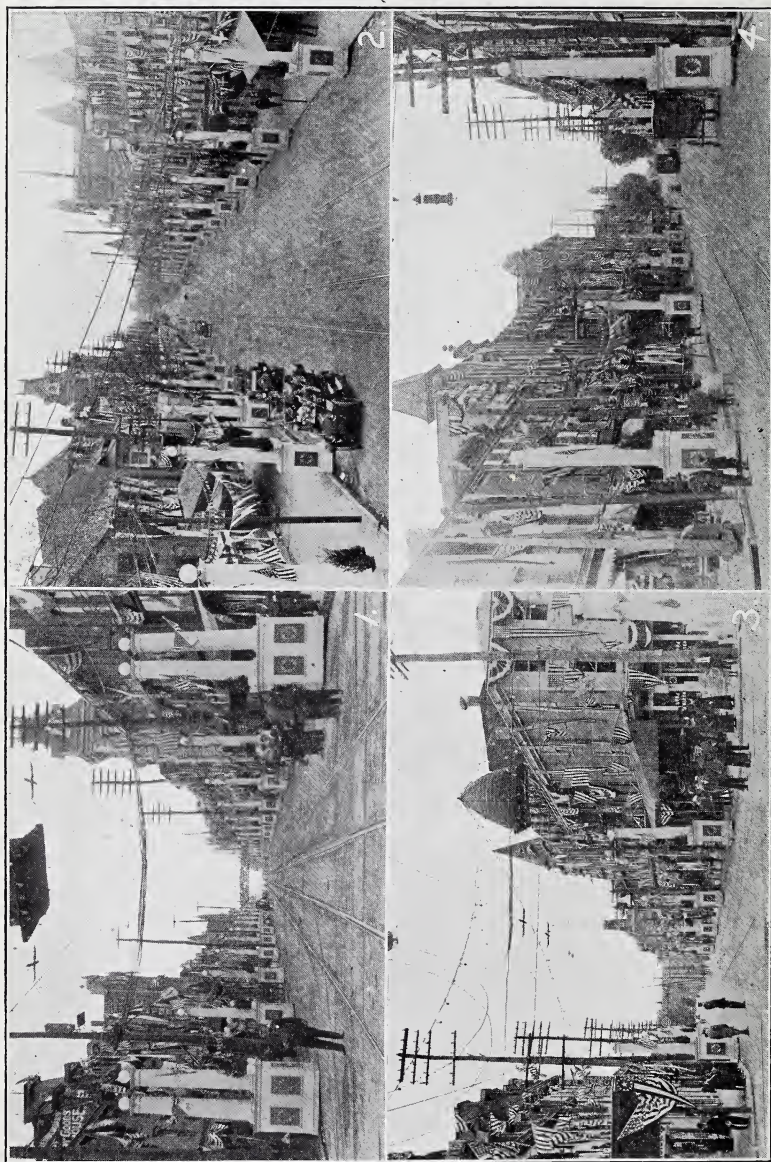
Nor will this little volume alone be cherished as a memorial by those of the future. The present has a just pride in its own life. Those who participated in the scenes and events of the first centennial will find a joy in reviving their own experiences. Children also will delight in its pictured pages. Then, too, there is a human interest which centres in friend and relative that is imperishable.

The first purpose lends its influence to the second. The memorial is inseparably associated with the historical. This little volume aims to present in brief compass the more important facts and events connected with the life of Norristown. It makes no pretense at being comprehensive and exhaustive. It does seek to put matters of interest and of importance in a compact and attractive form, easy of assimilation and handy for service.

In an age overcrowded with activity and social demands, such a volume should find a welcome at the hands of both youth and maturity. Many, it is hoped, will be lured to the reading of such a brief history who would be deterred by a more voluminous treatise. There is a double blessing in such a result. To popularize local history tends to stimulate an intelligent local pride and to give birth to a well balanced local patriotism. To be able to speak sanely and intelligently about one's home city lends the charm of culture to the speaker and wins for the city itself the attraction and admiration of the hearer. An intelligent and sane citizen is an asset of great value to any community.

The form of the historical presentation has been determined by the memorial purpose. The form itself is history. Around the historic events memorialized in the first centennial of the Borough of Norristown have been gathered the materials presented. The form is at once simple and natural. Events follow in the order of succession, not every event but the chief events. As life ever moves onward towards its goal so the effort has been made to cause the life of this community to move in successive panoramic pictures from the earliest days to the present. It will be a satisfaction to the artist if the effort, put forth in sincerity, shall be in a measure successful.

The four maps included in this volume are a history in themselves. The map of the "Town of Norris" is here reproduced for the first time outside of the Deed Book in our Court House. The street scenes, groups of citizens and scenes from



Street Scenes, Norristown Centennial, May 5-11, 1912

1. Main street, west from DeKalb street.
2. Main street, east from Swede street.
3. DeKalb street, south from Main street.
4. DeKalb street, north from Lafayette street.

the historical pageant will serve the purpose of history in a most valuable and pleasing manner.

Norristown's Centennial observance began on Sunday, May 5, 1912. Special services were held in all the churches during the day and a mass meeting in the afternoon in the Grand Opera House. Monday was Municipal and Educational Day. Governor John K. Tener and Mayor Blankenburg were the special guests of honor. The public school pageant with the thousands of children in costumes, varied and historic, was one of the most beautiful and inspiring spectacles ever witnessed within the borough. Civic Day was observed on Tuesday, Industrial on Wednesday and Firemen's on Thursday. This last was the largest parade of the week's celebration, which closed with Military Day. Friday, the most beautiful day of all so far as the weather was concerned, was Historical Day. A meeting under the auspices of the Historical Society of Montgomery County was held in the Grand Opera House in the morning and in the evening a banquet was given in the City Hall under the auspices of the Historical Society, the Daughters of the Revolution and the Civic Club. The Historical Pageant was the feature of the afternoon. It was then that Norristown saw herself for the first time in pageantry. The experiences connected therewith are worthy of note.

Pageantry is unintentionally presumptuous, consciously spectacular, always dramatic. It deals with history as though it were something that could be handed out in chunks. It asks society to line up in a sort of historical "bread line" that it may satisfy its hunger for reality as the historical fragments are passed along the line.

Pageantry, however, is not to be criticized because of its presumption nor yet because of its spectacular and dramatic characteristics. It must of necessity repeat the methods of the kindergarten and the stage. The purpose of the pageant, as of the kindergarten and the stage, is the same—to please

and to instruct. In the pageant the living must impersonate the dead and the dead must appear to live again.

Pageantry came to Norristown as a pressing suitor. The mature maiden was so surprised at the proposal that she hesitated. It was so sudden. Nervous folks thought to get a professional "match-maker" in the form of a pageant builder to come to the rescue. They little realized that all their anxiety was vain. The thing was inevitable. Wiser heads saw the one thing needful was a minister. The minister was secured and arrangements for the great event consummated.

February 22, 1912, the announcement went forth that Miss Norristown had accepted Mr. Pageantry. Presents and congratulations began to multiply, the account of which may be read in this volume. The great event took place on the afternoon of Friday, May the tenth, nineteen hundred and twelve, at two-thirty o'clock. This was the exact day on which Norristown began her activities as a borough. The borough was incorporated Tuesday, March 31, 1812, but the first corporate act was on Friday, May 1, 1812. The Historical Pageant occurred on Friday, May 10, 1912, just 100 years later.

It was a brilliant affair and the day was perfect. Everybody was pleased, delighted. The newspapers vied with one another in words of praise and appreciation.

The Norristown Daily Herald said, "The pageant was superb. It was a spectacle which will linger long in the memory of every man, woman and child who witnessed it. It was instructive; it was dignified; it was historically accurate in every detail. What more could be asked; what more could be expected?"

The Norristown Daily Register said, "The pageant was highly instructive and made a firm and lasting impression upon every one of the thousands who witnessed it."

The Norristown Times said: "A two-mile pageant, gorgeous in costuming, rich in historical lore, of great educational

value, and interesting in its personnel and characteristics, marked Historical Day."

"The spectacle had been planned on broad lines with the end in view of not only making it beautiful, but also impressive and edifying."

The report of those entrusted with the management of the pageant was made public through the newspapers September 7, 1912. A formal report was made to the Historical Society of Montgomery County, November 16, 1912. This report is included in this volume.

In making the report to the Historical Society the Organizer and Director made certain recommendations concerning the securing of the negatives collected and the obtaining of a book with a complete set of pictures from the same.

The Historical Society unanimously approved the recommendations, and on motion of J. P. Hale Jenkins, Esq., a committee was appointed to carry out the recommendations, which committee consisted of Joseph Fornance, Esq., President of the Historical Society; Mr. Samuel Roberts and Rev. Theodore Heysham, Ph. D.

The committee completed its work. The album containing over 250 pictures of street scenes, decorations, groups of citizens and scenes of the Historical Pageant is now in the possession of the Historical Society, together with all the negatives of the same, except those owned by private individuals and loaned for the purpose.

Thinking to add to the joy and inspiration and educational value of Norristown's Centennial by making the scenes available for the larger public service, the Director had the scenes above-mentioned converted into lantern slides.

Before presenting these lantern pictures to the public they were shown privately to a committee, consisting of Mr. Samuel Roberts, Joseph Knox Fornance, Esq., Mr. B. Frank Stritzinger and Mr. George E. Weirman. These gentlemen were delighted with the scenes and recommended that they be

presented with descriptive lecture and musical accompaniments in the Grand Opera House in the near future.

The lecture was arranged for and given in the Grand Opera House on the evening of February 25, 1913. Geller's orchestra of ten pieces furnished the instrumental music accompanying the scenes, giving them a realistic appearance. The Ursinus Glee Club rendered selections between the first and second parts of the program. The lecture was given by Dr. Theodore Heysham.

The entertainment met with popular favor and was a great success. An indication of the appreciation on the part of the public may be gathered from the appended reports taken from newspapers the following day.

Norristown Daily Herald: "A most pleasing entertainment. What a thrill of joy and admiration will fill the hearts and minds of the people yet unborn when a century hence the beautiful pageantry can be displayed."

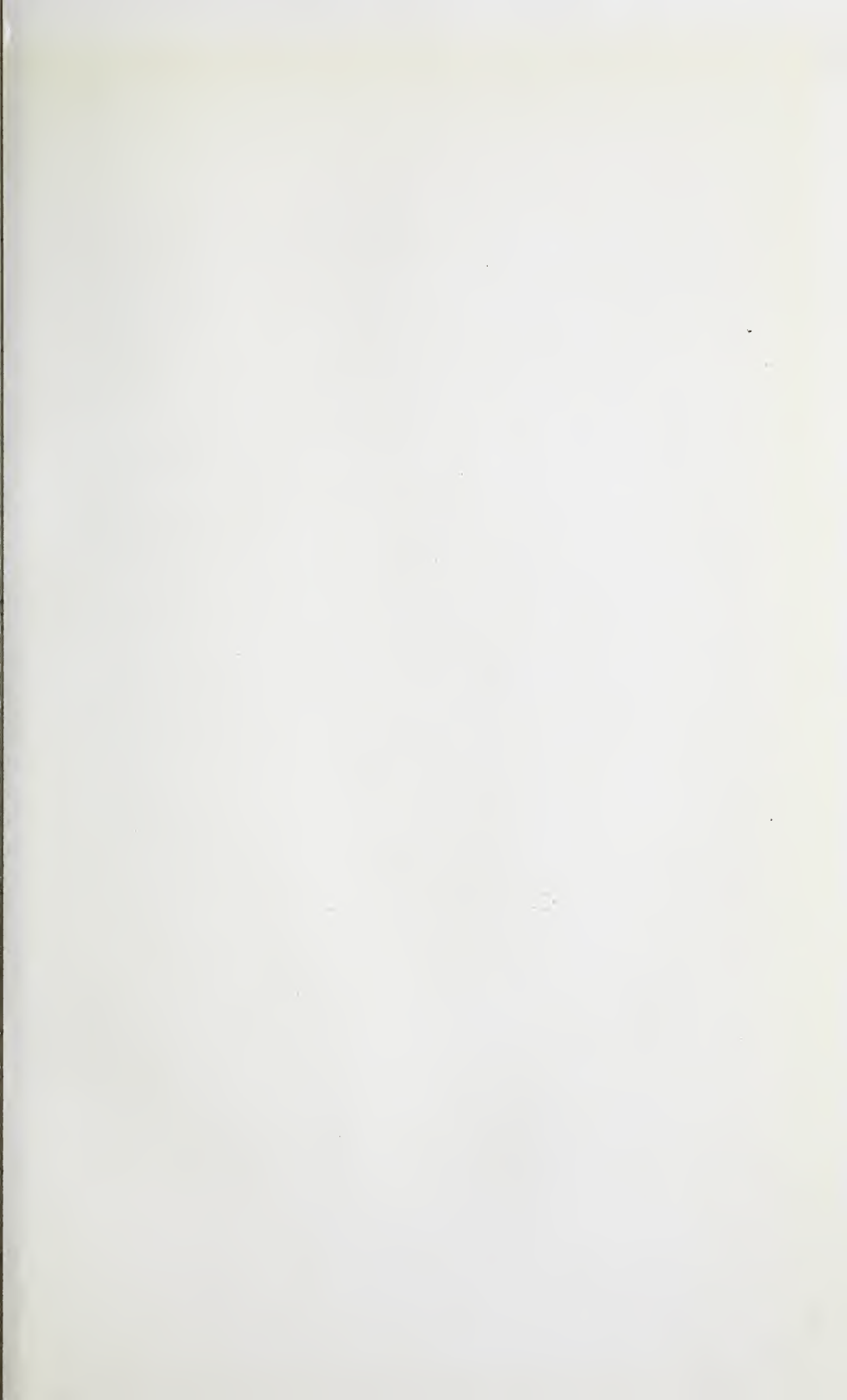
Norristown Times: "A fine treat. In years to come (the slides) will be regarded with the deepest kind of interest by the residents of Norristown and vicinity.

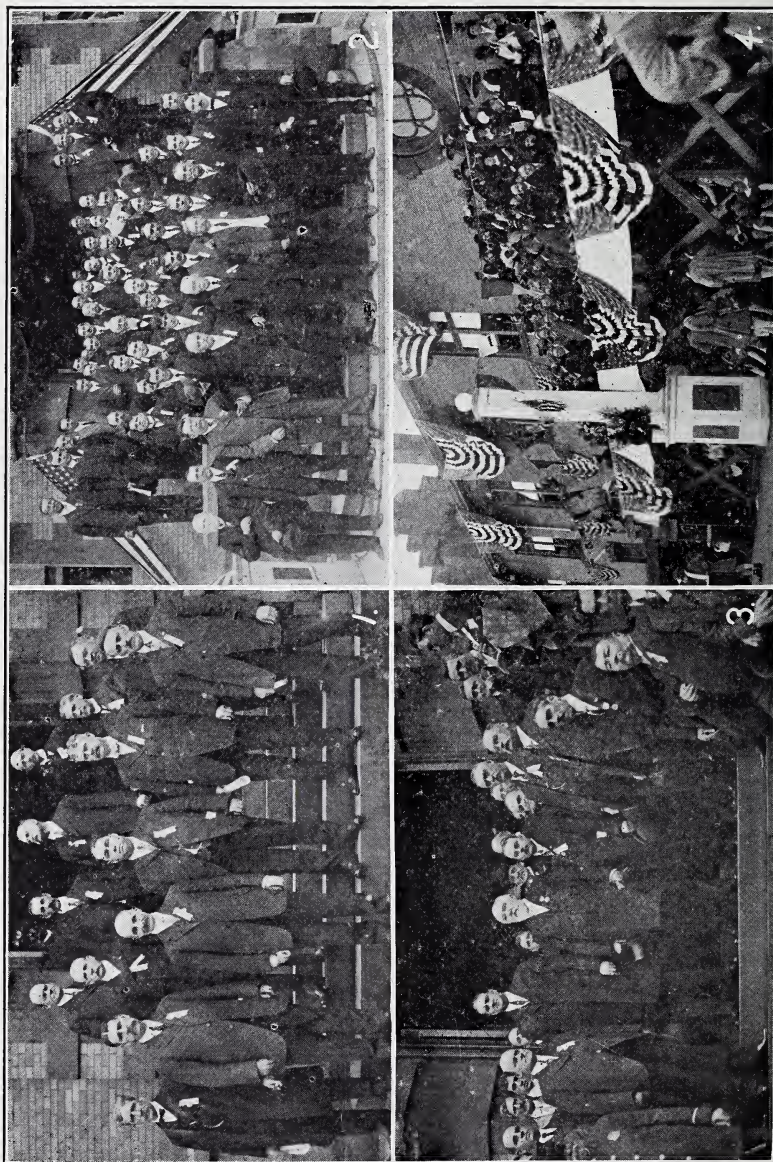
"That Norristown had reason to be proud of her Historical Pageant, which was a conspicuous feature of last May's Centennial Celebration, was fully realized by many, but the fact was emphasized last night, when, at the Grand Opera House, its scenes were reproduced on the screen by the aid of rapid fire photography and powerful projecting apparatus."

Norristown Daily Register: "Interesting, instructive, and decidedly entertaining was the first presentation of Norristown's Historical Pageant illustrated by means of over 200 lantern slides.

"The audience last evening was a large and representative one. They enjoyed the entertainment from beginning to end and were liberal in their applause."

From the proceeds of the lecture this volume was made possible. And when this volume shall have been presented





City Hall Scenes, Norristown Centennial, May 5-11, 1912.

1. Reception Committee. (Monday.)
2. Group of Citizens. (Monday.)
3. Governor John K. Tener, Mayor Blankenburg, and Group of Citizens. (Monday.)

to the public the first Historical Pageant of the Borough of Norristown will have been as fittingly and as perfectly preserved for future generations as human conditions made possible.

To all who have contributed to the making of the Historical Pageant such a signal success in memorializing the rooth anniversary of the Borough of Norristown as well as in its adequate preservation there will ever remain the consciousness of the grateful appreciation of those of this generation and of the generations to come.

There remains a final word of appreciation on the part of the author to the generous hearts who gave encouragement and assistance in the work of the preparation and publication of this volume. Through their labors of love one laborer has found joy in his labor.

THEODORE HEYSHAM.

Norristown,
December, 1913.



NORRISTOWN.

Beautiful for situation is the Borough of Norristown, seventeen miles northwest from the City of Philadelphia. Her peaceful homes nestle securely upon three gently sloping hills. The Schuylkill, flowing silently at her feet, offers refreshment and joy. Nature has been profuse in her gifts and civilization has not withheld her blessings. Thirty thousand people live happily within the boundaries and ten thousand more just beyond.

There are no weird legends or extraordinary events associated with the place. The founders were neither suckled by a she-wolf nor fed by a woodpecker. No ancient ruins, historic halls, great battle fields or tragic memorials challenge the attention. Not the glories of the past but those of the future are the charms which hold the hearts of the people to their tasks.

Memorials of glory, however, are the surrounding heritage of Norristown. In one direction is Independence Hall; in another, Valley Forge. Washington, Lafayette, the Muhlenbergs, Anthony Wayne, Lydia Darrah—these are the honored names of those whose deeds of heroism are inseparably associated with the environment. If Norristown did not shelter an Agassiz, she did an Audubon. If she cannot claim as a neighbor a Benjamin West, she can claim a Hovenden. If Benjamin Franklin brought the lightnings out of the skies near Philadelphia, David Rittenhouse read the mystery of the heavens near Norristown.

The inspirations of nature, the glories of life, the opportunities for the future are not lacking in this vicinity. The lines are fallen unto us in pleasant places and ours has been a goodly heritage. The danger for us is not that there shall be

too little in which to glory and to rejoice, but that there shall be too little of a desire to share and to welcome. Looking back through the centuries, our country has stood for opportunity, that opportunity which means the open gates for all who are worthy.

What is true of America as a whole is true also of this particular locality. Viewing our own history we behold the successive migrations of peoples. It is as though we were standing upon the shores of life's ocean, watching wave after wave of humanity rise far out in the great deep and, rolling in, break upon the shores of time. So came those successive waves of humanity rolling up our valley—the Dutch, the Swedes, the Welsh, the English, the German, the Scotch and Irish. These waves of humanity wrestled one with the other and with their environments until they came to rest in that grand harmony of life. But the end is not yet. The waves are coming still. Other waves of humanity are breaking upon the shores and rolling up the valley—the Slavs, the Poles, the Italians, the Jews, the Negroes. Humanity seems like the restless ocean, ever changing, perpetually moving, ceaselessly rolling onward. The historian of another century will record the deeds of these new arrivals. It is our responsibility to speak of those of the past.

A.

EARLY INHABITANTS AND SETTLERS

SCENE 1.

The Indians.

The first European settlers found the Indians when they arrived. Those in this section were the Lenni Lenape, and consisted of three clans—the Turkey, the Turtle, and the Wolf. They were generally known among the settlers as Delawares, because they lived along the river bearing that name. Arrow heads, stone hammers and other stone implements remain as witnesses of their life.

The Delawares were in subjection for a time to the Iroquois, but in 1785, at Tioga, through their chief, Teedyuscung, they secured an acknowledgment of their independence.

Impersonated and equipped by the Beaver, the Tecumseh and the Minne Kaunee Tribes of Red Men.

SCENE 2.

The Dutch Settlers.

Among the first Europeans to settle here were the Dutch. They gave the name Schuyl-Kiln (concealed river) to our river about 1616. That name and the family surnames beginning with the letter "V" are about the only records of their locating here. The old Presbyterian church at Norriton is said to have been originally a Dutch Reformed Church, built, probably about 1689, of logs.

Impersonated by members of the Christ Reformed Church.

SCENE 3.

The Swedish Settlers.

The earliest Swedish settlements were on the Delaware river, near New Castle, in 1638. They called their territory New Sweden. About 1684 some Swedes secured land along

the Schuylkill river. The Swedes' tract came into their possession in 1712. It embraced the territory between Bridgeport and the Lower Merion line, and was called "Ammasland." Among those who settled here were Mats Holstein, Gunner Rambo, Peter Rambo and Peter Yocum. Descendants of these remain in this locality.

In 1735 a school house was built on land secured from Gunner Rambo. This school building was used as a preaching station for the Philadelphia district. All marriages, however, had to be solemnized in the old "Gloria Dei," Philadelphia. "Old Swedes," or the Swedish Lutheran Church, was built in 1760, and a regular ministry established in this vicinity.

The Swedes were an industrious, thrifty and religious people. They gathered furs from the Indians for shipment to Europe, and developed the land by means of agriculture.

William Penn, in his "Present State of America," published in London in 1687, says, "As they (the Swedes) are a people proper and strong of body, so they have fine children and almost every house full, rare to find one of them without three or four boys and as many girls, some six, seven or eight sons. And I must do them that right: I see few young men more sober and industrious."

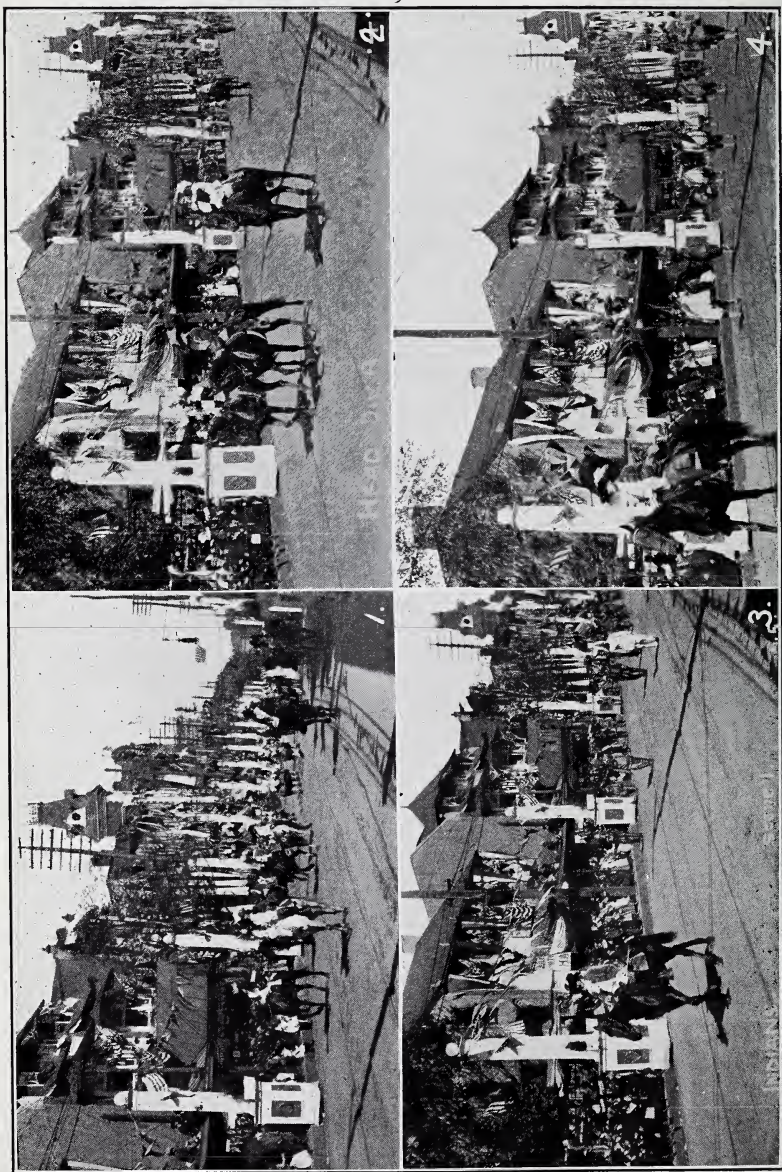
Impersonated by members of the Oak St. Methodist Episcopal Church.

SCENE 4.

The Welsh and English Quakers.

On March 4, 1681, Charles II affixed his signature to a charter which granted William Penn a large tract of land on the west side of the Delaware river. This grant was in settlement of a claim of £16,000, due his father, Admiral Penn. September 1, 1682, Penn, with about one hundred followers, embarked on the ship "Welcome." They arrived October 27, at New Castle on the Delaware. One-third died of small-pox on the voyage. Penn was welcomed with joy by the inhabitants, made up of English, Dutch and Swedes.

Penn's followers were English and Welsh. In 1702 the Welsh were the most numerous. On June 23, 1686, a com-



Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

1. Head of line; Grand Captain, Samuel Roberts and Staff.
2. Head of Division A; Albert Rowland Garner, M. D.; Mr. Lewis Y. Smith (Bridgeport), and Mr. Charles W. Walker (Devon).
3. Herald 1, H. Wilson Stahlnecker, Esq., and Indians.
4. Herald 6, Mr. Morgan Hunter and Scotch-Irish settlers.

pany left Plymouth, Devonshire, England, on the good ship "Desire," and settled in what is now Plymouth township.

Their first Meeting House is still standing. It was built between 1710 and 1714, and was used as a hospital for the sick and wounded after the battle of Germantown. Prior to the building of this Meeting House, the Friends met at the homes of James Fox in 1686 and David Meredith in 1702. The two hundredth anniversary of Plymouth Meeting was observed with appropriate services September, 1912.

A model of the old Plymouth meeting house, contributed by members of the Friends' Meeting of Norristown, appeared in the pageant. This model is now preserved at Plymouth Meeting House.

Impersonated by members of the First Baptist Church of Bridgeport, and the Bethany Evangelical Church of Norristown.

SCENE 5.

The German Settlers.

Francis Daniel Pastorius with eight or nine others came to the vicinity of Germantown on the ship "America." This was August 20, 1683. Later, on August 6, thirteen families came on the ship "Concord." Germantown and Frankford preserve the memory of these little bands. Pastorius and his followers were Mennonites. Their meeting houses dot the upper end of our county.

The most distinguished representative of this people in this vicinity was David Rittenhouse, the distinguished astronomer. He was born in Germantown in 1732. In 1734 his father, Matthias Rittenhouse, removed to Norriton, purchasing a farm of Isaac Norris. A part of this farm remains in the possession of the Rittenhouse family to this day. The Old Norriton Church property was originally a part of the Matthias Rittenhouse farm. He conveyed it to the Presbyterians about the year 1737.

The German Lutherans, under the leadership of Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg, in 1742, made great progress. Muhlenberg was one of the noblest figures in American church history. He died at New Providence (Trappe), Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 7, 1787.

The first settled minister of the German Reformed Church was Philip Boehm. He came to America in 1720.

His church (Boehm's) was and still is in Whitpain township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania.

The Pietists, or Mystics, with their long pilgrim staves, scholarly and liberal religious ideals, settled along the Ridge, in Roxborough. Moral perfection rather than outward form was their ambition in life. They were peculiar in dress and habits, and, like the Quakers, refused to take oaths or bear arms.

In 1734 the German settlers were twice as numerous in what is now Montgomery county, as all the rest combined.

More than any other early settlers the Germans cling to ancient customs and language.

Impersonated by members of the Trinity Reformed Church.

SCENE 6.

The Scotch and Irish Settlers.

The last of the important additions to the colony of Penn was the Scotch-Irish settlers. They came about the year 1700. They were sturdy pioneers, pushing out into the new regions. In religion they were mostly Presbyterians, driven out of Scotland and North Ireland by the persecutions under Charles II and James II. The Old Norriton Church was established by them prior to 1714, for in that year Rev. Malachi Jones, pastor of the Abington Presbyterian Church, began to preach there stately, continuing thus for 13 years. Benjamin Franklin and David Rittenhouse, the astronomer, are said to have worshipped here on occasions.

The church was damaged during the Revolution by soldiers using it for quarters. In consequence, the Assembly, September 17, 1785, permitted money for its repair to be raised by means of a lottery. Colonel Archibald Thompson, who died November 1, 1799, lies buried here, as also Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Stuart, who died May 27, 1799. Both were officers in the Revolutionary War.

The quaint Scot costume never loses its picturesqueness.

The model of Old Norriton Church, which was carried in the pageant, is now in the possession of the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church.

Impersonated by members of Norristown High School and Lower Providence Presbyterian Church.



Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

1. Scene 2. Dutch Settlers.
2. Scene 4. Welsh and English Quakers.
3. Scene 7. Old Log Cabin.
4. Scene 9. Tennessee Hut.

B.

COLONIAL NORRISTOWN.

SCENE 7.

Old Log Cabin.

The first dwellings in Norristown were of logs, one story in height, with small windows and doors. The logs were secured from the extensive woodland of the surrounding country.

By a happy circumstance after the pageant the model Old Log House, which appeared in this scene, was placed in Elmwood Park. This beautiful strip of land along Stony Creek comprises 32.76 acres. A splendid boulevard traverses the entire length. The Old Log House nestling in this retreat of nature is at once a memorial of the past and a testimony to the present, surrounded as it is by more than 6000 comfortable and substantial homes of brick or of stone, filled with the conveniences and comforts of modern civilization.

The float contributed by Mr. Adam Scheidt. Those who appeared on this float were from the Quaker City Shirt Co. and First Baptist Church of Bridgeport.

SCENE 8.

Indian Trail.

Egypt, or Main street, as it is now called, was at first only an Indian trail through the unbroken forest. From a trail it evolved into a path, then came the narrow, uncertain cartway and the country road, next the village street and finally the noisy paved highway of a busy and prosperous borough, the largest in the United States.

The first effort to macadamize Main street was started March 25, 1833. It is now paved with brick or stone from end to end of the borough. But this is not all. The official report for 1912-1913 shows that Norristown has 12.91 miles of permanent paved streets and 18.37 miles of macadam streets

or 31.28 miles of improved highways. These streets are lighted by means of 228 electric arc lamps besides other lamps. There are about 25 miles of sanitary sewers and 13 miles of storm sewers beneath their surface besides water, gas and steam heat mains. These streets are further lined on either side with concrete or brick sidewalks. And yet in spite of these improvements the town is ambitious for better things.

Impersonated by men of Grater-Bodey Company. Float contributed by Grater-Bodey Company.

SCENE 9.

Trappers and Traders.

The early settlers found in the forests and along the streams beavers, raccoons, sables, foxes, wild cats, lynxes, bears and deer. Wm. Penn speaks also of mink and martens. These animals furnished food for sustenance. Their skins also were valuable. The Indians were expert in gathering furs and skins. One year they traded to the Swedes at New Castle 30,000 skins which they had procured from the country between the Schuylkill and the Susquehanna.

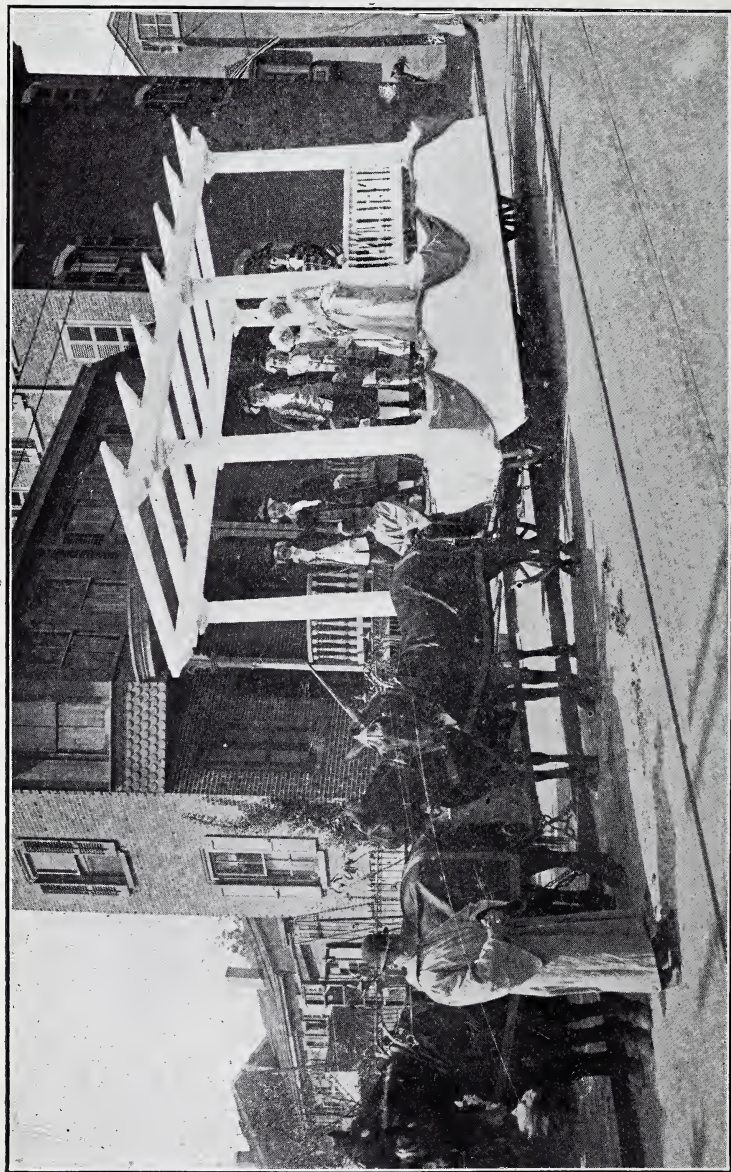
Impersonated by members of the Paint and Powder Club. Float contributed by Neiman & Frey.

SCENE 10.

Norris and Trent Purchase. 1704.

October 2, 1704, William Penn gave to his son, William Penn, Jr., the township of Norriton, which also included Norristown. It contained 7482 acres and was called the "Manor of Williamstadt." Five days later young Penn sold the tract to Isaac Norris and Colonel William Trent for £850. Trent later, or about January 11, 1712, sold his part to Norris for £500, and removed to the vicinity of Trenton, New Jersey. Thus Trenton, New Jersey, and Norristown, Pennsylvania, preserve the names of these two pioneer, colonial gentlemen—Isaac Norris and Colonel Wm. Trent.

The records show that Isaac Norris was born in London, July 26, 1671, and that he removed to this country in 1693, settling in the city of Philadelphia. He was active in public life. A member of the Governor's Council in 1709,



Scene 10. Norris and Trent Purchase, 1704.

Left to right, Mr. Samuel Troutman, Mr. Sherman Carney, Mr. Walter Gehringer, Mr. Palmer P. Troutman, Miss Sarah H. Roberts, Miss Katherine M. Schweyer, Mr. John Gleason.

Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

he later occupied the positions of Speaker of the Assembly, Justice of the county, and Mayor of the city. Beside the "Manor of Williamstadt," he held large interests in Northern Liberties, to which place he removed in 1718, having built a home at Fair Hill.

The "Manor of Williamstadt" was changed, by order of the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia county, to Norriton township in 1730. Four years later, 1734, there were twenty landholders and tenants in the township. In 1741 there were twenty-five taxables; in 1828, two hundred and forty-five taxables; and in 1849, three hundred and eighty taxables.

Isaac Norris died June 4, 1736. His will, dated January 17, 1731, appointed his wife, Mary, and his sons, Isaac, Charles and Samuel, joint executors. Isaac died July 12, 1766. Although active in public life, having been elected twice as Speaker of Assembly, he will be remembered longest by posterity as being the one who suggested the inscription on the "Liberty Bell"—"Proclaim Liberty throughout the land and to all the inhabitants thereof." Previous to his death there were sold portions of the estate to settlers, amounting to 1720 acres. The greater part of the land around Norristown came into the possession of Charles. He erected a mill and made other improvements.

Impersonated by men of Grater-Bodey Company. Float contributed by Grater-Bodey Company.

SCENE II.

Public Sale of Norriton Plantation. 1771.

Much of the estate of Isaac Norris descended to his son, Charles, who was a merchant in Philadelphia. After the death of Charles Norris, January 12, 1766, and in order to settle the estate, his widow, Mary Norris, February 27, 1771, offered at public auction, at the Archibald Thompson Inn (Jeffersonville), a tract of 543 acres, called the "Norriton Plantation and Mill Tract." This tract comprised the centre of what is now Norristown. The purchaser was Lewis Weiss, scrivener, to whom she deeded the property the fol-

lowing March for £4,270. The next day he conveyed it back to her for the same sum. John Bull, of Limerick township, then became the owner. September 17, 1771, he secured it for £4,600. Bull sold it to Rev. William Smith, D. D., November 2, 1776, for £6,000.

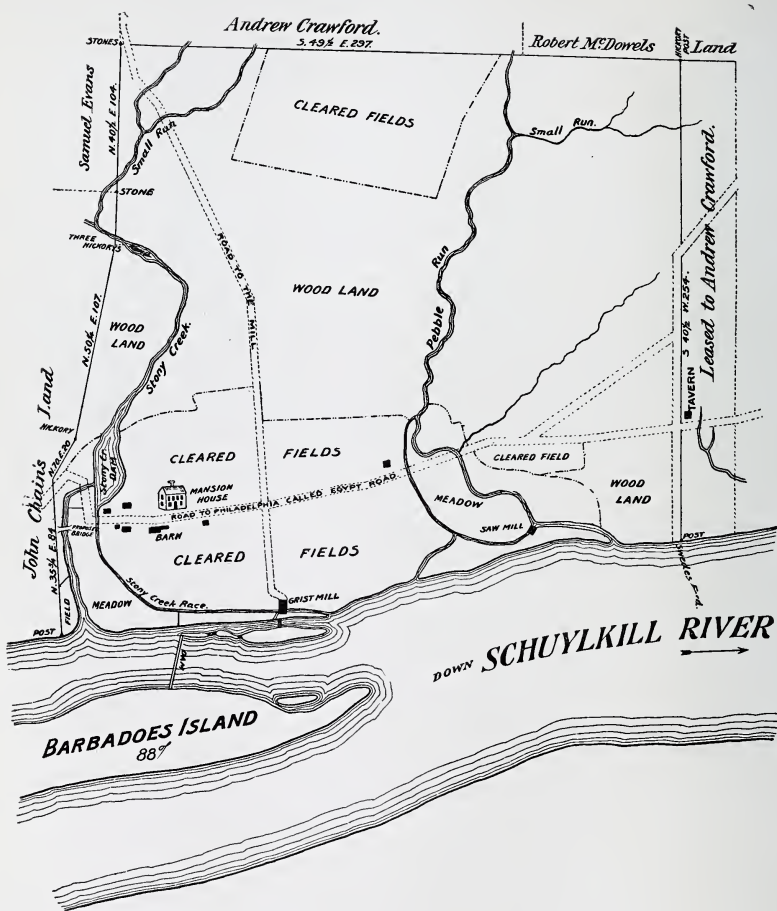
It is well to remember that this tract of 543 acres included Barbadoes island, in the Schuylkill river. This island contained 88 acres and extended from a point below DeKalb street bridge to a point nearly opposite Merion station, a distance of over a mile.

The old manor house or mansion of Colonel John Bull stood a short distance north of Main street and west of Barbadoes street, or in the stable yard of what is now the Farmer's hotel. It is said to have stood until a few years ago, when it gave way to building enlargements.

Neither Isaac Norris nor his son Charles lived in this vicinity. But Charles Norris, son of Charles Norris and grandson of Isaac Norris, did. He was the only member of the Norris family to settle on the estate of his father and grandfather in Norriton township. The part of the estate remaining in the family extended from Port Indian to Betzwood. On this tract, in 1809, he erected a house known as "Norris Hall," now the residence of Theodore Lane Bean, Esq. This Charles Norris was born July 12, 1765, and died December 24, 1813, leaving three daughters but no sons. His body lies buried in the Norris family burying ground, connected with "Norris Hall" in Norriton township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania.

Two lineal descendants of Charles Norris reside at the present time in the borough of Norristown. Mr. Charles Norris Rambo and his brother, Mr. Milton Howard Rambo, are great-great-grandsons of Charles Norris through his eldest daughter, Mary (Schrack).

Impersonated by members of Y. M. C. A. and their lady friends. Float contributed by Rambo & Regar.



A DRAFT

Of 543 1/2 acres of land called the Norriton Plantation and Mill Tract, eighteen miles from the city of Philadelphia, and of that part of Barbadoes island in the river Schuylkill containing 88 acres, which is right opposite the said mill tract wherein the mills, mill dams, mill races, mill ponds, messuages, houses, barns and other buildings of the farm are laid down in their proper places.

The whole premises, fast land and island, will be sold together by public vendue on Wednesday, the 27th of February, 1771, at Archibald Thompson's tavern in Norriton Township.

SCENE 12.

Strife Between Fishermen and Boatmen Settled.

Prior to building the canal, and the dams to supply it, the navigation of the Schuylkill was extensive. Farmers and others along its banks brought their produce over it in canoes to Philadelphia markets and took home other goods on their return trip.

The abundance of fish in the river induced those living along it to place rocks, dams and fish-weirs in the stream to assist them in catching the fish. This obstructed navigation and in 1730 it was forbidden by law. Still the dams were built and the boatmen destroyed them. Violent struggles arose and the contest lasted for years. It came to an end about the year 1769. This controversy first brought Norrington to the attention of the larger world.

The Schuylkill river is 125 miles long. It has its origin in Schuylkill county, and empties into the Delaware. The map of 1689 shows about one-third of the length of the river and indicates that the part around here was well explored. Previous to 1810 it was crossed by means of fords and ferries at Flat Rock and Pawling's. Swedes' Ford was a noted place in 1730.

In 1810, bridges were constructed across the river at Manayunk and Pawling's, in 1819-21, at Pottstown, and in 1828-9, at Norristown.

Transportation was stimulated by the opening of the canal. On March 6, 1802, a Reading paper had the following: "Within the present week were taken down on the Schuylkill to the mills of the city of Philadelphia, in the boats of this place, in one day, the following articles: 1201 barrels of flour, 1425 bushels of wheat, 17 tons of heavy iron, 1492 gallons of whiskey, 365 pounds of butter, and 500 pounds of snuff. The whole amounted to upwards of 160 tons, and would require, in the present conditions of roads, at least 160 teams of horses to haul the same to market."

A few boats came with coal in 1818. By 1825 coal was deemed cheaper than hickory wood. In 1829 two hundred

boats passed up and down the river weekly. The canal was enlarged in 1846 to carry boats of 186 tons burden instead of 66 tons.

In 1825 passenger boats came from Reading to Pawling's bridge. The passengers were conveyed thence by stage coach to Philadelphia.

In 1826 the "Planet" went the entire distance with 64 passengers. The "Comet" of Norristown, in 1829, made five trips weekly to Philadelphia, causing a reduction in the stage fare from \$1.00 to 75 cents per trip between these two points.

The building of the dam opened the way for water power, and mills began to be erected. McCredy's cotton mill, in 1826, was the first large one.

Rains swell the river to considerable heights on occasion. It rose to eighteen feet at Pottstown in October, 1786. July 29, 1824, it was thirteen feet above low water mark at Norristown; and September 2, 1850, it mounted to twenty-one feet.

The Schuylkill is normally a stream of rare beauty as it flows peacefully between the hills. Nowhere is it more beautiful than at this point where an island divides it in twain. In 1828, Lewis Schrack moored "floating baths" to Barbadoes Island, provided boats for sailing and fishing and urged people from far and near to visit this "beautifully retired spot." Now and again efforts have been made to get the people here to appreciate the river and the island. Recently boat houses have been erected in profusion along the river front and considerable local interest awakened in aquatics. Barbadoes Island, however, awaits yet a true appreciation of its value.

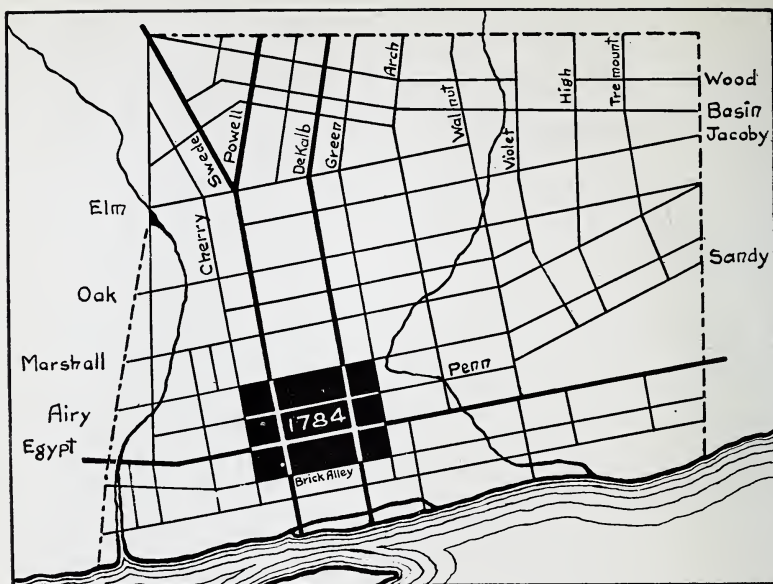
Impersonated by members of High School. Float contributed by Leichthammer Baking Co.

SCENE 13.

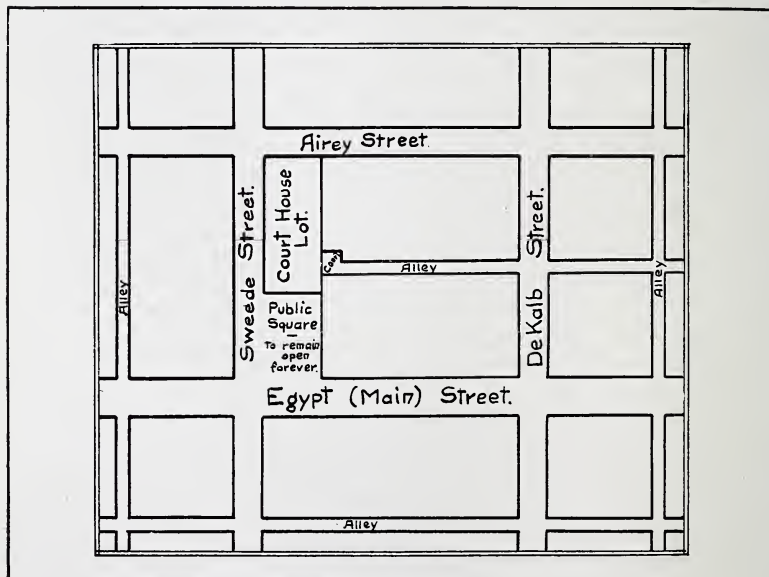
Location of the County Seat, 1784.

(a) MEETING.

When Montgomery county was created by being cut off from Philadelphia county, September 10, 1784, the first business of the new county was done at the inn of Hannah Thomp-



Composite Map of Norristown.
 Town of Norris, 1784-1812, 28 acres.
 Norristown, 1812-1853, 520 acres.



The Town of Norris.
 Plan taken from Deed Book, No. 2, page 465, Court House of Montgomery County,
 area 28 acres.

son in Jeffersonville. Five men were named by the legislature to procure a piece of land near Stony run and contiguous to the Schuylkill, in Norriton township, and to build thereon a court house and prison for the new county.

Those appointed for this responsibility by Act of Assembly were Henry Pawling, Jr., Jonathan Roberts, George Smith, Robert Shannon and Henry Cunnard, of Whitpain. They were represented in the scene.

The Court House was located in the north corner of what is now the Public Square, at Penn and Swede streets. It was a two-story stone building facing Main street. The prison occupied the site of the present Court House. These cost about \$21,000, and were put up in 1787. In the rear of the jail stood the whipping-post. The Potter's Field of the prison and garden of the jailor were on the northwest of Airy and Swede streets. Swede street was known as "jail lane."

On June 3, 1684, Penn purchased from Maughhongsink all the right to the land along the Perkiomen creek. This embraced the region in this vicinity, in all probability, as the lands up to the region of Conshohocken had been secured previously. By successive purchases Penn peaceably obtained possession of the whole of Montgomery county.

The first work of Penn, after securing the land, now comprised within Montgomery county, from the Indians, was to set surveyors to work laying out highways and fixing lines. This work was completed by about 1740.

In 1795 there were ninety-six grist mills, sixty-one saw mills, four forges, six fulling mills, and ten paper mills.

At this time the county was heavily timbered with oak hickory and chestnut. The wood was used for fuel in the charcoal and lime kilns, as well as in the homes prior to introduction of coal. A scarcity of wood began to be manifest in 1818.

Montgomery county contains 473 square miles or over 302,720 acres. It has thirty townships, sixty election districts and twelve boroughs.

Impersonated by men of J. Frank Boyer plumbing house. Float contributed by Mr. J. Frank Boyer.

(b) COLONIAL NORRISTOWN.)

The style of dress in the days when Montgomery county was born was well represented in this scene.

Impersonated by members of Y. M. C. A.

(c) MAP OF 1784 AND 1812.

This composite map shows in the larger area Norristown from 1812 to 1853. In the smaller space is to be seen the "Town of Norris," 28 acres.

Shortly after 1784 the improvements of the "Town of Norris" consisted of the county buildings, a mill (foot of Swede street), a school house, two stores and three taverns, together with about twelve dwellings. There were less than one hundred inhabitants.

The year 1816 showed a marked advance. There was a varied population with varied talents and capacities for development and service. Thus there were two merchant mills, one woolen factory, one pottery, one tannery, two hat factories, four schools, one church, an academy, a fire engine, about one hundred houses, three physicians, five lawyers, one clergyman, two magistrates, two printers of weekly papers, one apothecary, two cabinet makers, three butchers, five stove makers, five taverns, two plasterers, one watch maker, one mason, one chair maker, three blacksmiths, one saddler, two oak coopers, one milliner, one barber, four carpenters, and four shoemakers. A fulling mill was added in 1818.

By 1820 the population had grown to 827. The Schuylkill Navigation Company completed the canal in 1824-26 at a cost of \$27,000 per mile for 180 miles. Coal at \$7 per ton superseded hickory wood at \$5 per cord. In 1829 the DeKalb street bridge, costing \$31,200, made communication between the eastern and western shores freer. Then came the first large industry to the borough—McCredy's mill, at the foot of Swede street, the new dam offering increased facilities for water power.

In 1830, thirteen stages were passing through Norristown to Philadelphia daily, carrying from fifty to one hundred passengers.

The year 1830 opened a succession of decades the most remarkable for the increase of population in the borough's history. In 1830 the population was 1089. By 1840 the population had nearly tripled itself, being 2937. In 1850 it was 6024, more than twice the population of 1840, and nearly six times the population of 1830.

Prior to 1830 there were only three great avenues of communication with the outside world, the Ridge pike, the DeKalb street bridge and the Schuylkill canal. After 1830 nine more were added, making twelve great channels for the free movement of life.

Is it wonderful that when the means of communication were multiplied by four that the population multiplied also? In 1850 the bees in the hive were nearly six times as numerous as in 1830. The cells also increased in the same proportion, there being nearly six times as many houses in 1830 as in 1810. It was a great building era; a great era for the founding of churches, also. Prior to 1830 there were only two, the Episcopal and the Presbyterian. After 1830 came the Baptist, the Methodist, the Roman Catholic, the Reformed, the Lutheran and others. Educational ideas found expression in Aaron's Academy in 1841, and Ralston's seminary in 1845. Strong men were at the head of the newspapers—Robert Iredell, 1829, of the Free Press, and Adam Slemmer, 1834, of the Register.

Manufacturing interest multiplied proportionately. DeKalb street mill (1836), Eagle works (1838), Derr's marble works (1842), Hoooven's iron mills (1846-1849), and three others in 1857; Norris coach works (1850), Penn coach works (1852), Guest and Fluck, lumber (1850), Bolton & Stinson, planing mill (1854).

In the forty years between 1816 and 1856, the banking business increased nearly twenty-fold. In 1816 the deposits in the Montgomery National Bank were \$13,392.22, but in 1856 they were \$254,132.87, and there was opportunity for more banks, for J. Morton Albertson came in 1857.

Human needs multiplied with human opportunity. If five stores were sufficient in 1816, fourteen were barely suf-

ficient in 1849. The old town pumps and the old oaken buckets, the old tallow dips and the old oil lamps, the old horse with a load of marketing on his back and the old farmer peddling it out from door to door—these became inadequate to meet the needs of a growing people. Water was introduced into the homes by the water company in 1847 at an expense of \$62,000, and illuminating gas by the gas company in 1852 at a cost of \$40,000. In 1850-1, the DeKalb street market was constructed and in 1859 the Farmer's Market, and the farmers came to town with their marketing in wagons. Since then a new market has been built in the West End, and now a new "market wagon" has come in vogue, the trolley car.

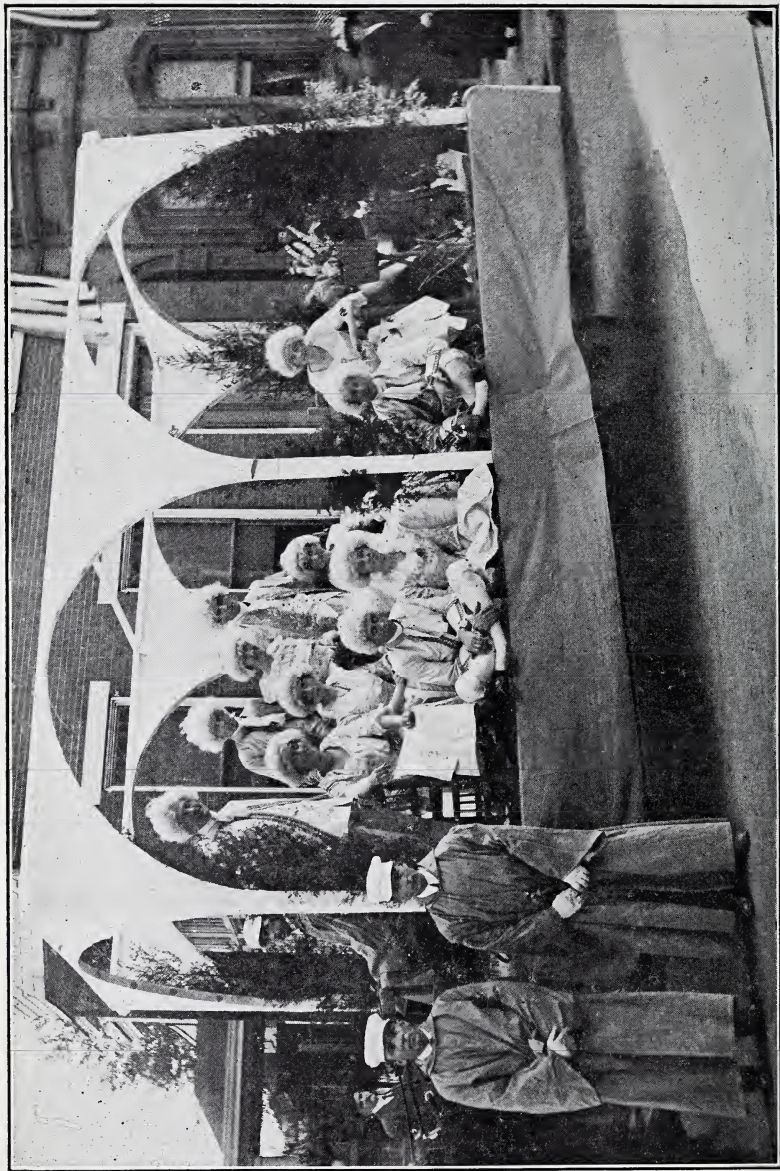
Map designed by the borough engineer, Mr. S. Cameron Corson.

SCENE 14.

Trustees of the University of the State of Pennsylvania Executing Deed for Court House Lot. 1785.

The University of Pennsylvania owned what is now the centre of Norristown. It came into possession of this property through the agency of the Provost, Rev. William Smith, D. D. Of the 543 acres purchased by Colonel John Bull, from Mary Norris, Dr. William Smith bought all except fifty acres, October 30, 1776, for £6,000. The property came into the possession of the university or what afterwards became the University of Pennsylvania. From this farm and the mills thereon the trustees received a yearly rental of "500 bushels of wheat or its value in currency."

In 1785 the University of Pennsylvania was called the University of the State of Pennsylvania. On December 7, 1785, the trustees of the University of the State of Pennsylvania "for and in consideration of the sum of five shillings lawful money of the State of Pennsylvania well and duly paid" conveyed to "Henry Pawling Jr., Jonathan Roberts, George Smith, Robert Shannon, and Henry Conrad, Gentlemen," a "certain piece of ground situated in the Town of Norris and marked 'Court House Lot.'" This lot was 344 by 140 feet and included a part of what is now the public square.



Scene 15. Fete at William Moore Smith's, 1884.

Top row, standing, left to right, Mr. Edward Harley, Joseph Knox Fomance, Esq.; Miss Jean Buchanan, Mr. Aaron Swartz, Jr.
 Middle row, seated, left to right, Miss Margaret Coleman, Miss Anne Swartz, Miss Catharine Eastwick, Miss Alice Childs.
 Bottom row, seated, left to right, Mr. Noble Coleman, Miss Helen Barnes, Mr. Robert M. Harley.

Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

The Deed Book declares that the land was conveyed to the above-named gentlemen "In trust to and for the County of Montgomery and particularly for the use and purpose of erecting thereon a court house and prison sufficient to accommodate the public service."

The University of the State of Pennsylvania laid out the public square in the "Town of Norris," designating that it should be kept open forever. The map of the original "Town of Norris," which was without building or inhabitant, is recorded in the court house. It shows the public square, the court house lot and the town plots surrounding.

This scene represented the trustees of the University of the State of Pennsylvania executing the deed, through F. Sproat, secretary, for the court house lot.

Impersonated by members of the Calvary Baptist Church.
Float contributed by D. M. Yost & Co.

SCENE 15.

Fete at William Moore Smith's, 1794.

William Moore Smith, son of Rev. William Smith, D. D., the first Provost of the University of the State of Pennsylvania, was, for a time, a resident of the original town. In 1784, under the direction of the University of the State of Pennsylvania, William Moore Smith laid out the town and called it the "Town of Norris." This was in compliment of Isaac Norris.

The town laid out extended from Cherry street to Green street and from Lafayette street or Brick alley to Airy street. These streets varied in width. Egypt or Main street was 80 feet wide; Swede, Airy and DeKalb streets were each 66 feet, while the others were only 24 feet in width. What is now Penn street was formerly an alley.

By referring to the map of the "Town of Norris," reproduced in this volume, a good idea of the original town can be obtained. It was copied from Deed Book No. 2, page 465, Montgomery county, by Joseph Knox Fornance Esq., and is an exact reproduction, except that the lots are not shown. The chief features to be noted are the extension of the Court

House lot below Penn street, the separation of Penn street from Swede street by the Court House lot and the smallness of the original Public Square in comparison with that of the present.

In looking at this map of the "Town of Norris" it is well to remember that the first court house stood in that part of the Court House lot below Penn street, which is now in the present Public Square, that the first court house faced Main street and that the first prison was on about the site of the present court house. The lots were 50 feet each, fronting on Main street and were numbered 1, 2, 3, etc., from the Public Square toward Green street.

The ground on which the new Montgomery Trust Company and the Boyer Arcade stand, comprised lots No. 1 and 2. These were sold in 1785 by the trustees of the University of the State of Pennsylvania to "Henry Roosen of the Township of Worcester, Confectioner" for £77 and £34, respectively, lawful money of Pennsylvania. It was further stipulated that he pay or his heirs "yearly and every year forever an Acorn if demanded" to the trustees of the University of the State of Pennsylvania.

After William Moore Smith came John Markley in 1798 as the leader in the development of the future town. And after Markley came John B. Sterigere, 1834, who gave great impetus to progress together with Adam Slemmer, Levi Roberts and William H. Slingluff.

This scene represented a fete at the home of William Moore Smith. It depicted the social life in colonial times.

Impersonated by members of the First Presbyterian Church. Float contributed by the Counties Gas Company, and horses by the Druggists Association.

C. REVOLUTION.

SCENE 16.

1243414

Continental Troops.

The feet of the Revolutionary soldiers frequently trod the soil of this region. After the battle of Brandywine, September 11, 1777, General John Armstrong was ordered to erect breastworks to check the British at this point. The work was done under the direction of Chevalier Du Portail, a Frenchman, at Swedes Ford.

General Wm. Howe, with the British army, followed the American army under General George Washington, up the west bank of the Schuylkill river to Fatland Ford, where they both crossed. Washington retreated toward Pottsgrove (Pottstown). Howe later retreated. Washington followed. Howe encamped at Norristown. His army extended from the Schuylkill on the east side of Stony Run to Manatawny road, now Germantown pike. The American army, under Washington, encamped on the west side of the Perkiomen. The light cavalry, under General Peter Muhlenberg, captured five British soldiers near Trappe.

General Peter Muhlenberg (1746-1807) was a son of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, of Trappe, Pa. He was an ordained minister in Virginia when the war broke out. After preaching a powerful sermon on "The Duties to Country," he threw aside his robe and disclosed a soldier's garb. Volunteers sprang to his side. A company was formed. The soldier preacher led them forth to war and to distinction. His statue stands in the National Gallery, Washington, D. C., as Pennsylvania's most distinguished soldier.

General Andrew Porter (1743-1813) is also one of whom we can be proud as a resident in this vicinity. He fought in the battles of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine and German-

town. His home on West Main street remains in a good state of preservation and is occupied by his granddaughter, who is the wife of Joseph Fornance, Esq., President of the Historical Society of Montgomery County. Of the three sons of General Andrew Porter, David R. was Governor of Pennsylvania from 1838-1844; General James M., Secretary of War, under President Tyler; and George B., Governor of Michigan.

SCENE 17.

British Soldiers.

While in this vicinity in September, 1777, the British burned considerable property, among which was the powder mill. Damages for the property destroyed were allowed by the government after the war as follows: To John Bull, £2,080; to the University of Pennsylvania, £1,000; to Hannah Thompson, £807; to William Dewees, £329.

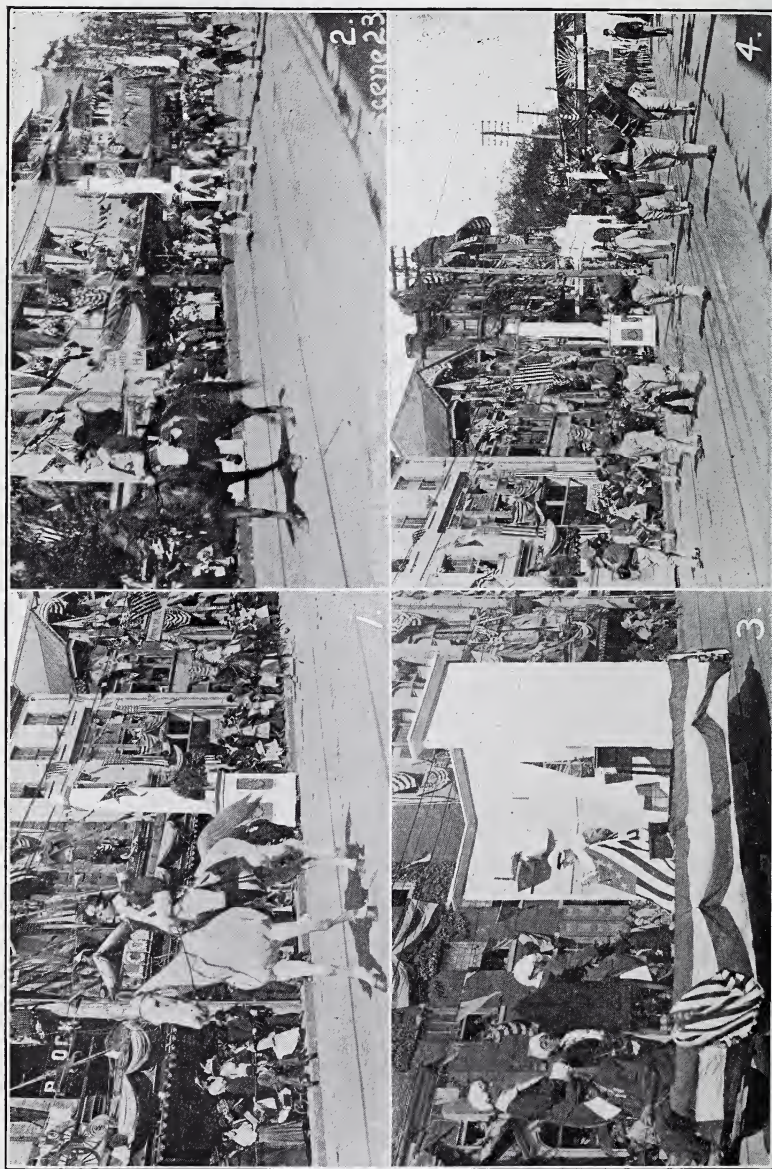
When Howe retreated to Philadelphia, Washington followed to Whitemarsh. The battle of Germantown was fought October 4, 1777. Washington retreated, crossed the Schuylkill at Swedes Ford, encamped at Gulph Mills, then moved in the direction of Valley Forge, where he went into winter quarters on December 19, 1777, and remained until June 19, 1778.

SCENE 18.

The French Allies.

General Lafayette also crossed the river at Swedes Ford. He was en route from Valley Forge to Barren Hill, where he encamped May 16, 1778. General Howe made an effort to capture Lafayette and his army May 20, 1778, but was unsuccessful.

When freedom's cause had been won the distinguished Frenchman returned to his own country. A few years later he came to America on a visit. Norristown became a center of intense interest. A meeting was held and a committee appointed to invite Lafayette to visit Montgomery county.



Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

1. Scene 16. General George Washington (Mr. Harvey A. Detwiler).
2. Scene 17. General Clinton (Mr. C. S. Schlosser) and British Troops.
3. Scene 18. Betsey Ross making flag.
4. Head of Division E and Boys in Blue.

The following committee went to Philadelphia, September 30, 1824, to meet him: Col. G. W. Holstein, Col. William Buck, Col. William Powell, Major William Matheys, Capt. Philip S. Markley and Lieut. R. B. Jones. The mission was unsuccessful, but the Norristown Guards, under Captain Philip S. Markley, and two companies of cavalry, under Captains G. W. Holstein and William Matheys, participated in the celebration in honor of the French patriot.

Scenes 16, 17, 18 were impersonated by students of Ursinus College, and men of Wildman Manufacturing Company and Company F, National Guard of Pennsylvania.

The Spirit of '76.

Betsey Ross Making Flag.

Impersonated by students of Chain Street Public School.

D.

NORRISTOWN AFTER 1812.

SCENE 19.

War of 1812.

Thirty years after the Revolutionary war ended the United States again declared war against England. It lasted from 1812 to 1814. The cause was England's insisting upon the right to search American vessels and impressing into the British navy naturalized citizens of this country.

Most of the war was fought upon the high seas and the Great Lakes. Among the land battles were the battle of Lundy's Lane, the bombardment of Fort Henry at Baltimore, which incited Francis Scott Key to write the "Star Spangled Banner," and the battle of New Orleans. One event of this war also was the burning of our national capitol by the British. Citizens of Montgomery county took an active part in this war and rendered valiant service.

October 20, 1813, the Town Council of the borough of Norristown published the news of the victory of General Harrison over the British General Proctor. It also ordered a general illumination from early candle-light until 9 o'clock.

The victory thus commemorated occurred on October 5, 1813, when General Harrison with 3000 men utterly routed the British under General Proctor, and the Indians under Tecumseh at the battle of the Thames. Tecumseh was killed and General Proctor barely escaped capture. The Indian Northwest Confederacy was destroyed and the British power in Upper Canada broken.

Members of Co. F, National Guard, appear in this scene.

MAP OF NORRISTOWN. 1853-1912.

The map of 1853 is the same as that of 1812. The contrast between that and the one of 1912 was shown on the float.

Some indication of the growth and development of the borough may be gathered from the following data: In 1834 a commission was appointed by an Act of Assembly to "widen, extend, lay out and grade the streets of Norristown." In 1845 another commission was authorized to take up alterations on the original draft and add new streets. In 1853 the limits of the borough were extended, embracing 1500 additional acres. This made the area of the town nearly 2 miles square.

In 1812 the little "Town of Norris" embraced 28 acres. With the incorporation of the borough, it was enlarged to 520 acres. From 1812 to 1850 the population grew from less than 500 to 6024 and the number of houses from less than 100 to 1006.

With the year 1853 new territory was added to the borough. It grew from one mile square to two miles square, from 520 acres to its present limits, 2265.01 acres. A steady increase in population was manifest. From 1860 to 1870 the population increased from 8848 to 10,753, a gain of 1,856. From 1870 to 1880 the increase was 2,410. But from 1880 to 1890, the years in which the Pennsylvania railroad came, the DeKalb street bridge freed and street railways introduced, the gain was 6,628. That is, more people came into the town between 1880 and 1890 than were in the town in 1853 when the town was enlarged. From 1890 to 1900 the gain in population was 2,474, by 1910 there was another large increase of 5,610. The present population is not far short of 30,000.

Commercial and manufacturing interests grew apace and homes multiplied. From five stores in 1816 to one hundred and eight stores in 1858, the commercial interests have expanded until in 1913 there are five hundred and forty-six licensed stores. The seven manufacturing establishments of 1816 grew to thirty-one in 1880 and to fifty-seven in 1913, with thirteen more on the opposite side of the river. The homes multiplied proportionately. In 1816 there were about 100 houses, in 1850 more than 1000 houses, while in this year, 1913, there are over 6000 houses. The need of a new en-

largement of territory is recognized as a necessity in the near future.

A general idea of the prosperity of Norristown can be gained from assessed values. In 1883 the assessed value of real estate was \$6,310,263. From that date there has been a steady increase each decade of over \$2,000,000. The present value is about \$14,000,000.

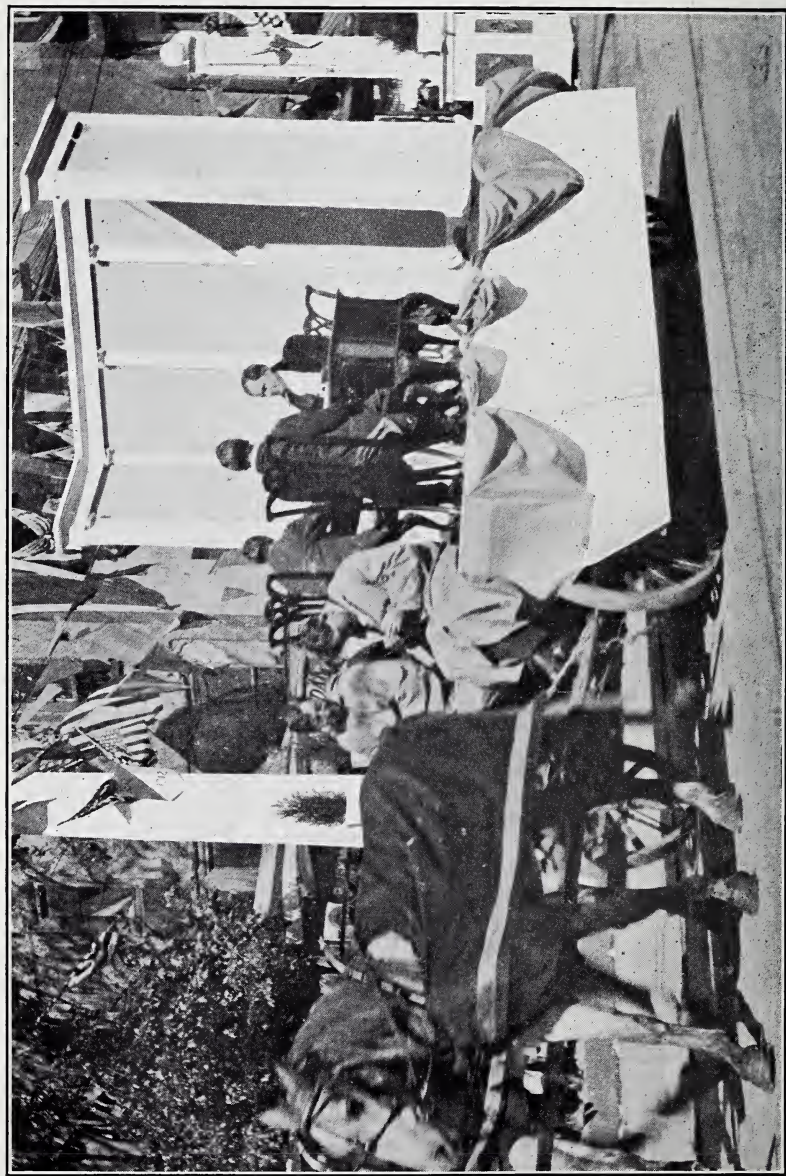
From 1812 to 1857, one bank, The Montgomery National, was sufficient for the community. In 1857 J. Morton Albertson started an independent bank which has since developed into the Penn Trust Company, 1904. Since then there have come the First National Bank, 1864; Norristown Trust Company, 1888; Peoples' Bank, 1881; and Montgomery Trust Company, 1885. These six banking institutions reported in 1912 deposits amounting to over \$8,600,000.

The business of the post office in 1912 was \$60,747, or twice the volume in 1910, when it was \$28,000.

The town supports three daily newspapers. The Norristown Daily Herald (1869) grew out of the Herald and Free Press and won its place through the leadership of the late Morgan R. Wills. The Norristown Daily Register (1880) is the successor of The Register. The honored editor, Mr. Albrecht Kneule, has just retired from active management. Captain William Rennyson laid the foundation of the Norristown Times in 1881. It was the first permanent penny paper established in the town and led the movement to make the DeKalb street bridge free from toll. A new paper, Publicity, a weekly issue, has just appeared.

The products of the town consist of hosiery and underwear, cotton and woolen goods, shirts, sweaters, cigars, lumber and mill work, machinery screws, bolts, tacks, paper boxes, boilers, rugs, carpets, paper, stationery, asbestos coverings, silos, tanks, pottery, flour, paints, varnishes, malt products, bricks, ice, gas, electricity, wood handles, fibre, medicine, flavoring extracts, radiators, plumbers' supplies, mattresses, cement vaults, pretzels, bread, belts, cornices, candy, and miner's caps.

Map designed by the borough engineer, Mr. S. Cameron Corson.



Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

Scene 20. Governor Simon Snyder (Elias D. Gotwals) signing Charter. 1812.

SCENE 20.

Governor Signing Charter of 1812.

Norristown became a borough, Tuesday, March 31, 1812. On this date, Simon Snyder, Governor of Pennsylvania, affixed his signature to the charter, granted by the Legislature of the state, which accorded to Norristown the honor of being enrolled among the boroughs of the commonwealth. Previous to this Norristown was an unincorporated village, and a part of Norriton township.

The boundaries of the new borough were Astor street, Wood street, Ford street and the Schuylkill river. It comprised 520 acres and had about 500 inhabitants.

The corporate seal of Norristown, approved January 15, 1833, bears the motto, "Fervet Opus." It is a vignette representing a bee hive, and inscribed round the edge is the following: "The Borough of Norristown, incorporated March 31, 1812." The cost of the seal was \$15.00.

Impersonated by members of the Haws Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church. Float contributed by Mr. H. B. Tyson.

SCENE 21.

Oath of Office of First President of Council.

The first members of Town Council were elected Friday, May 1, 1812. The meeting was held in the court house. On June 3 following, they assembled again in the court house and were sworn into office. Their names are as follows:

General Francis Swaine, John Coates, Philip Hahn, Lewis Schrack, Robert Hamill, David Thomas, Matthias Holstein and James Winnard.

General Swaine was a son-in-law of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, the honored Lutheran clergyman of Trappe.

There was a contention in the Council over taxes in May, 1813. General Swaine resigned and Levi Pawling took his place. Council met alternately at the rival inns of Morris Jones and Jared Brooke.

For one hundred years Norristown has held to the borough form of government, that of a single council, with a burgess

as the official head of the town. Twice had the proposition been made to adopt a city form of government and twice defeated. When the present borough hall was built it was called City Hall, and provided with chambers for the accommodation of a select and common council. For a third time a city form of government was rejected when the commission idea was defeated by 491 votes at the election held November 4, 1913.

Impersonated by men of the Merchants' Ice Company. Float contributed by Merchants' Ice Company.

SCENE 22.

"Pat Lyon" Fire Engine.

The "Old Pat Lyon" fire engine, now in possession of the Montgomery Hose Company, was the first one introduced into the town. The order was given by Town Council to Patrick Lyon to procure a fire engine for \$550. This was August 24, 1812. Patrick Lyon built the engine in Philadelphia. There are evidences that it belonged to a Philadelphia company and gave way to a newer model. It is of the old hand type, water being supplied by means of leather buckets. These were filled at the old town pumps, passed along the bucket line and emptied into the side of the engine.

The engine was located in a one-story stone building, erected for that purpose in the southwest corner of the public square, on Main street.

This wonderful engine of 100 years ago has now become a curiosity. Norristown has passed through the complete evolution of volunteer fire fighting. Hand-power engines and human motors have yielded successively to steam engines with horses and they to the most approved modern auto-truck chemical apparatus.

The service and equipment also have grown. Since the "Old Pat Lyon" days there have come successively the following companies: Norristown (1847), Montgomery (1847), Humane (1852), Fairmount (1852) and Hancock (1895). They are all well-housed and splendidly equipped.

Norristown has a system of fire hydrants and connections, together with a system of fire alarms, valued at \$37,-

665.50 and apportions annually to the maintenance of the fire companies \$9,700.

Impersonated by members of Montgomery Hose Company. Furnished and equipped by Montgomery Hose Company.

SCENE 23.

Woman's Suffrage.

Women have full rights of suffrage in six states of the Union. In others they have restricted rights. The following countries grant this privilege to women: New Zealand, Australia, Finland, China and Norway.

Float contributed by Woman's Suffrage Association of Montgomery county.

Women's Christian Temperance Union.

SCENE 24.

Churches and Education.

(a) OLD ACADEMY. 1805.

The Old Academy was the high school of the early days. The idea originated at a meeting in the home of Elisha Evans, January 29, 1803, with General Andrew Porter presiding. The work was vigorously prosecuted by Nathaniel B. Boileau, who secured an appropriation of \$2,000 from the state. The building was erected in 1805. It was of brick, 30 by 45 feet, two stories high, and stood on Airy street, at the head of DeKalb street, facing the river. At that time, however, DeKalb street did not go beyond Airy street. When DeKalb street was opened in 1849, the Old Academy was torn down.

Rev. John Jones, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, was the principal. He taught Latin and Greek. That distinguished Frenchman, John James Audubon, the ornithologist, was his assistant for a time, teaching drawing and sketching.

All the early churches began their life in the Old Academy building.

The Minute Book of the borough contains the following notes of interest:

November 27, 1848, Council ordered the property of the Old Academy to be bought for \$3,100.

March 12, 1849, Council ordered the building to be sold but reserved the bell and fixtures.

March 26, 1849, Council sold the building to Jacob Bodey for \$180.

February 28, 1853, Council loaned the bell to the Norristown Fire Company to be put up at their hose house.

March 14, 1853, Council loaned the old fire engine "Norristown" and the fire bell and horn to the Fairmount Fire Company, now the Fairmount Engine Company, No. 2.

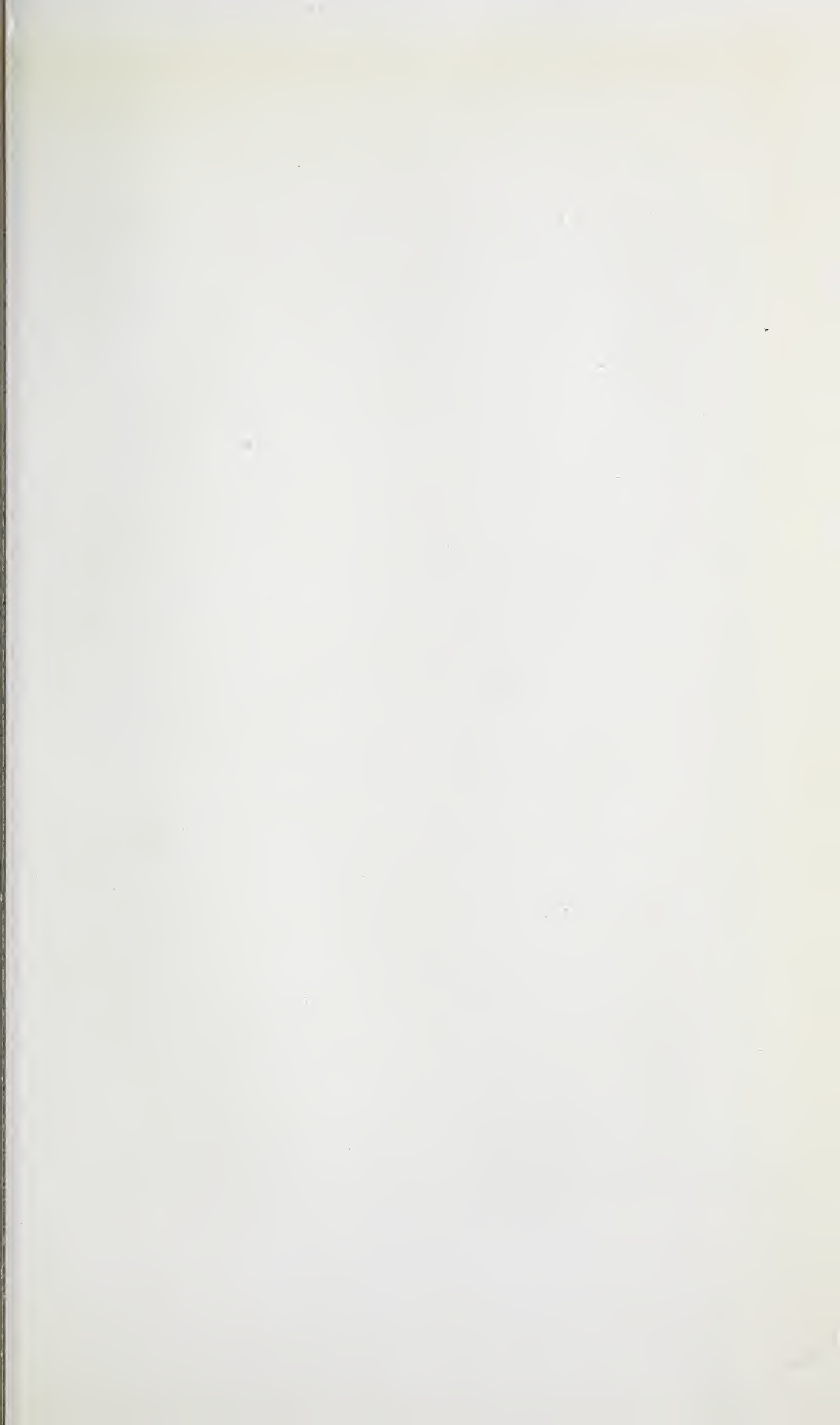
Among those eminent in history, who prepared in the Old Academy, were General Winfield Scott Hancock, General Adam J. Slemmer and General John F. Hartranft, afterward Governor of Pennsylvania.

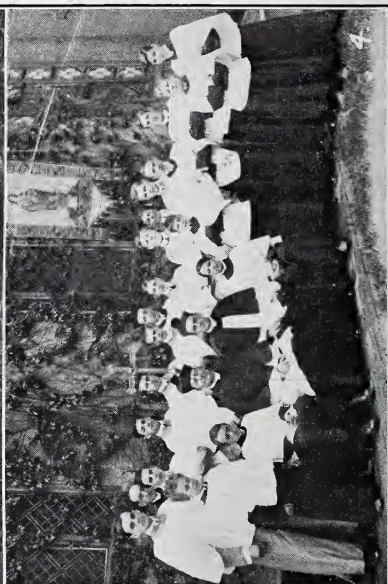
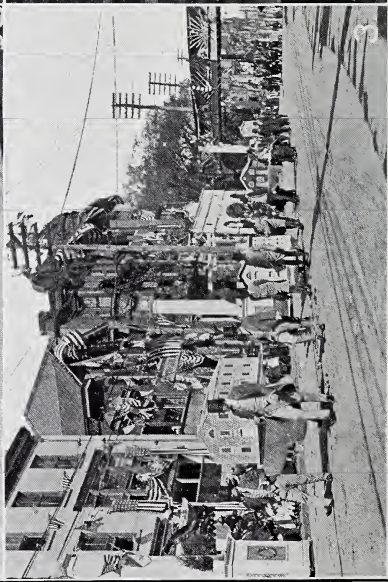
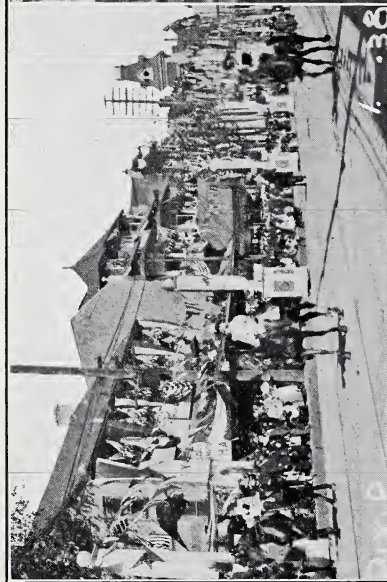
The favor accorded to educational ideals may be inferred from the schools which sprang up in the wake of the academy.

In 1811, Mrs. Amelia Stokes opened a boarding school, in which were taught English Grammar, Geography and History; also sewing, marking and embroidering, thus anticipating our modern ideal of domestic science in the public schools.

In 1841 Rev. Samuel Aaron opened Treemount Seminary for young men and boys. Prof. John W. Loch revived interest in the institution in 1861 when he took charge and united the DeKalb Street Institute with it. In 1845 Rev. J. Grier Ralston, D. D., founded the Oakland Female Institute. Other schools of lesser fame were started by Samuel Patterson, Wm. M. Hough and the Misses Bush. These educational institutions have all passed out of existence. The processions of young ladies and young gentlemen to and from these schools, representing, as they did, devotion to ideals of culture, are no more. The war of the rebellion, the changing conditions of life and especially the rise of the high schools, have all been instrumental in their dissolution. It is not too much to say, however, that a certain air of culture has passed from the town with the passing of these institutions of higher learning.

Norristown is justly proud of her public schools. They





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1. Head of Division D. Henry C. Welker, M. D.; J. Ambler Williams, Esq.; Mr. Thomas H. Livezey.

2. Scene 24. Old Academy.

3. Scene 24. Coming of the churches.

4. St. John's P. E. Church.

are the universities for the people based on the idea of the value of universal education. There are six elementary and grammar schools and one high school, of which Prof. A. D. Eisenhower is the long-honored principal. On June 30, 1913, there were graduated 77 pupils, 38 males and 39 females, out of a total enrollment of 3,844. The enrollment, October 9, 1913, was 3,632, of which 1,806 were males and 1,826 females. Prof. A. S. Martin is the superintendent. Prof. J. Horace Landis is superintendent of the county.

The responsibility of training and cultivating this company of young people is entrusted to the care of 97 teachers. The courses of study are as follows: Regular, Classical, Commercial, Manual Training and Domestic Science. Other advantages offered consist of a night school, medical inspection, school savings fund and an athletic field of $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres, adjoining Elmwood Park, which has 32.76 acres.

There are also two libraries, the Norristown Library, the oldest library in the town, a small subscription institution, and the Free Library, connected with the public schools. One of the deep needs of the present time is a free library worthy of the patronage and of the pride of the people of a Greater Norristown.

The professional talent of the town is of a high order and generous in numbers, there being 33 ministers, 42 physicians, and 55 lawyers, among whom are three judges, the Hons. Aaron S. Swartz, Henry K. Weand and William F. Solly. There are 18 dentists and about 10 teachers of music, besides a good number in other fields of culture.

This scene did not appear in the pageant. The model of the old academy was placed in the line, but the young men of the Calvary Baptist Church, who were to have borne it, failed to appear. The Historical Society of Montgomery County has the model in its possession. A picture of this model was taken, and is the only likeness in existence of this historic structure.

(b) **ST. JOHN'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1813.**

This church, the first planted in the town, was an offshoot of the St. James Protestant Episcopal Church of Evansburg. It was organized in the Old Academy, December 17, 1812. St. John's was built on its present site in 1813, the ground being a gift from Levi Pawling.

The President Judge of this county was the Hon. J. Bird Wilson. He was a resident of Norristown and one of the Wardens of St. John's Church. In 1819 Judge Wilson was ordained to the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church and chosen Rector of St. John's.

Two missions have been established by this church: All Saints in 1889, under the long rectorship of Rev. Isaac Gibson, D. D., and Holy Trinity. All Saints, through the zeal of the Rev. W. Herbert Burk, made possible the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge.

Members of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church appeared in this scene in vestments.

(c) **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1815.**

The first pastor was the Rev. John Jones. He organized the church, September 4, 1814, and was the first principal of the Academy.

There is no picture of the First Presbyterian Church known to exist, nor can the exact date of its construction be determined. What is known is that the church was erected before April 25, 1818. A marble tablet in the present church bears the date of 1815. The location is defined as being on the northeast corner of DeKalb and Airy streets.

Rev. J. Grier Ralston, D. D., describes the building as a stone structure, two stories high, and in size 55 by 45 feet. He also states that the roof-trusses, window frames, sashes and shutters of the old building were sold to Fluck and Guest, who placed the same in Bullock's mill. This mill, now known as the Norristown Woolen Mills, is located on Main street near Arch, and, according to Dr. Ralston, is an exact reproduction of the old First Presbyterian Church except that it is one story higher and larger. The church was enlarged in 1839 and the present structure erected in 1854. A new Sunday school building was added to the rear of the church and the entire church replastered on the outside in 1913. The model shown in the pageant was constructed from the description by Dr. Ralston.

The Central became a separate body in 1855. The First Bridgeport grew out of a mission in Norristown.

Model carried by members of the First Presbyterian Church, and now preserved by the First Presbyterian Church.

(d) **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.**

This church was planted by the missionary enterprise of the Great Valley Baptist Church. Meetings were held in the old court house and the old Academy, and an organization formed, October, 1832. The first house of worship was built in 1833. The present building was erected in 1875.

For some years prior to 1861 the conventions for the abolition of slavery were held in this church. One of the moving spirits of the movement was the Rev. Samuel Aaron, at one time pastor of the church and later the educational leader of Treemount Seminary, which developed into Loch's school. Benjamin F. Hancock, father of General Winfield Scott Hancock, was a member here, but on account of the strong abolitionist tendency of the church, he left and went over to the First Baptist Church of Bridgeport.

Three times has the mother church sent out colonies. The First Bridgeport in 1850, the Calvary in 1870, and the Olivet in 1902.

Model contributed by the First Baptist Church and drawn by members of the First Baptist Church. It is now in the possession of the church.

(e) **FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1834.**

The Rev. John Finley, from Germantown, gave impetus to the cause of Methodism in this vicinity. The first church was built in 1834, and it was located on Main street below Arch. The old building remains to this day in a good state of preservation. It also is the property of the Norristown Woolen Mill. On this mill property stand the memorials of two churches, the First Methodist and the First Presbyterian. The present Methodist house of worship on DeKalb street was built in 1858, the stone front being added in 1897.

Two churches have developed out of the old church, Oak Street in 1854, and Haws Avenue in 1875.

Model contributed by the First Methodist Episcopal Church, and carried by members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church. It is now in the possession of the same church.

(f) **ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, 1837.**

The first Roman Catholic Church was built in 1832. Patrick Flynn and the father of Dr. E. M. Furey were among those who laid the foundation. There were eight families in the town then of that faith. Now there are 458. The church on Washington street, now standing, was begun in 1859 and completed after the war of 1861. Rev. Francis Carr uncovered the first sod for the new church on DeKalb street on St. Patrick's Day, 1907.

Two other churches of this faith have been established in this vicinity, the San Salvatore (Italian) and St. Augustine, Bridgeport.

This scene did not appear in the pageant. The model of the church was constructed under the guidance of the Pageant Committee, but was placed in the parochial school section of the parade on Educational Day, instead of in the pageant on Historical Day.

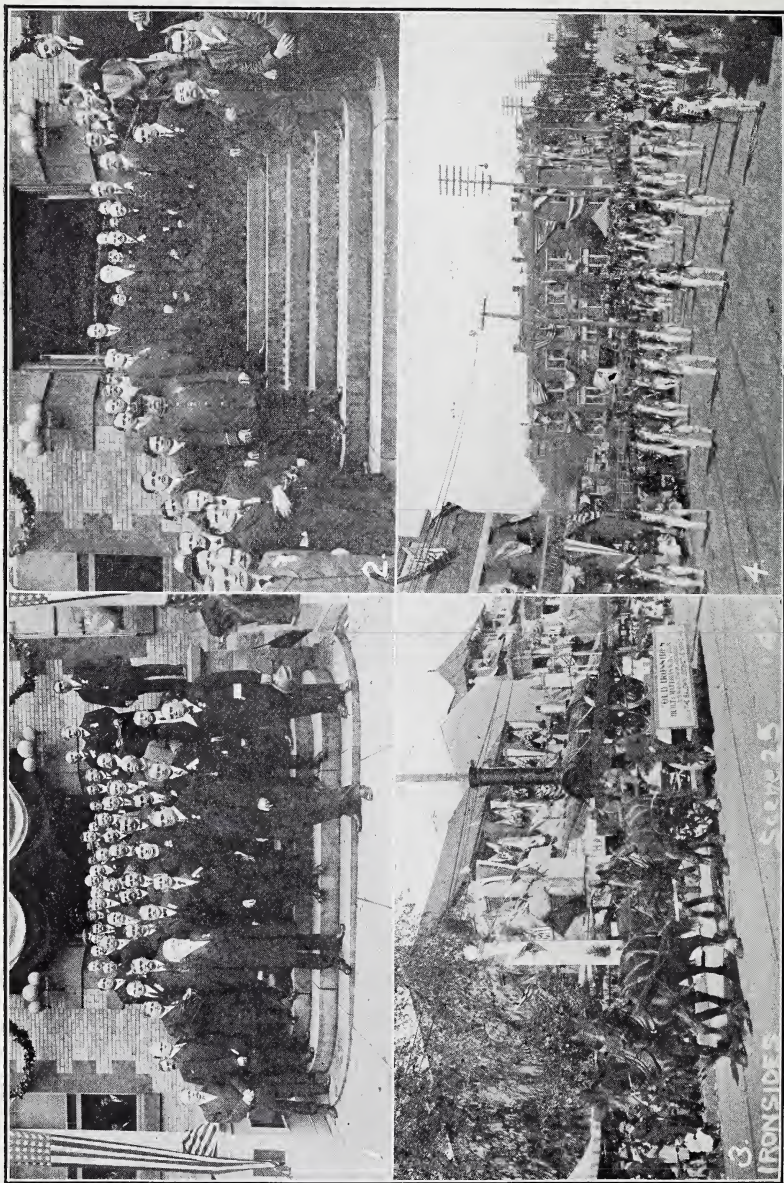
(g) **REFORMED CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, 1847.**

The Reformed Church of the Ascension was built in 1847. It was remodeled in 1859 and 1886. The foundation for a new building was begun on the same site in 1912 and a handsome new stone church was dedicated in 1913.

The Trinity, 1872, and Christ, 1896, are products of this church.

Norristown has a number of other churches. There are three Lutheran: the Trinity, 1849, St. Paul's, 1862, and the Grace, 1885; one Evangelical, the Bethany, 1845; one Church of the Brethren, 1901; one Schwenkfelder, 1904; one Hebrew Synagogue, 1901; and one Christian Science church. The two societies of Friends are represented. The Hicksite, 1851; the Orthodox, 1890. Then, too, there are three colored churches, the Ebenezer and Mt. Zion Methodist and the Si-loam Baptist. Thus there are 28 churches, together with a Y. M. C. A.; a Y. W. C. A.; a Salvation Army and a number of charitable and social service organizations.

Model carried by members of the Reformed Church of the Ascension and contributed by the Reformed Church of the Ascension. The model is being preserved by the church.



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- 1 and 2. Governor John K. Tener, Mayor Blankenburg and Group of Citizens, City Hall, Monday.
3. Scene 25. Old Ironsides, 1832.
4. Scenes 16, 17, 18. Colonial, British and French Troops.

SCENE 25.

"Old Ironsides." 1832.

This was the first engine built by Matthias W. Baldwin, founder of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, in 1831-1832. It was also the first engine to run from Philadelphia into Norristown on the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad. This latter important event occurred Saturday, August 15, 1835. Cheers and shouts of welcome greeted the train along the entire route. Upon the arrival of the party at Norristown there was a dinner participated in by about 350 persons, about 300 of whom were officers, managers and guests who enjoyed the trip.

The Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown railroad was chartered in 1831 and completed in 1834. The cost, twenty-one miles, was \$1,811,000. In 1815 it was double tracked.

The advent of the railroad marked an era of revolution in transportation and the means of communication. Previous to 1831 travel to Philadelphia was by boat, on horseback or by stage coach. In 1785 women went on horseback over the new Reading or Egypt road to shop in Philadelphia. This road was built in 1774. By 1808 there went to Philadelphia three stages per week—Monday, Wednesday and Friday. These returned on alternate days. Five years later there was a stage daily. This was made possible by the construction of the Ridge turnpike, 1811-1813, at a cost of \$7500 per mile. By 1830 there were thirteen stages daily to and from Philadelphia.

Other lines of communication were opened. The DeKalb street bridge was constructed in 1829 at a cost of \$31,200. The next year the State road from New Hope on the Delaware to the Maryland line, our DeKalb street, was built. In 1867 Swede street was turnpiked to Centre Square. In 1872 the Stony Creek railroad came and the next year the Perkiomen railroad. But most influential of all, in 1884, the Pennsylvania railroad was opened, the same year the DeKalb street bridge was freed and a street railway was started in the town. Since then Norristown has been connected by trolley with Chestnut Hill, Roxborough, Conshohocken, Swedeland, Bridgeport,

Lansdale and Collegeville, and now a new line to Philadelphia, the Philadelphia and Western, and one to Allentown, the Lehigh Transit Company. That is, before 1830 there were three great avenues. Before 1860 nine more were added, making twelve. But since that day twelve or fourteen more avenues have opened, making twenty-five channels for the flow of life to and from the town. Nor must we forget to mention the Chester Valley (1863), the Plymouth (1868), and the Trenton Cut-off railroads.

There are 134 railroad trains either arriving or departing every day, and the trolleys move in a continual stream within and without the borough. Added to these are those wonderful highways of communication, the telephone and telegraph.

This exhibit made possible by the generosity of the Philadelphia and Reading R. R. Co., and the Baldwin Locomotive Works, Philadelphia.

SCENE 26.

Mexican War. 1846-47.

The revolt of Texas from Mexico and the subsequent annexation of that state to the Union in 1845 were the causes of the Mexican War. But back of all was the passion to secure more territory—new slave states.

At least one of Norristown's sons participated in this war, Winfield Scott Hancock. For signal gallantry in the battles of Contreras and Churubusco, Hancock was brevetted first lieutenant.

The Sons of Veterans appeared in this scene.

E.

REBELLION AND LATER.

SCENE 27.

Responding to the Call of "Father Abraham." 1861-64.

"Abolitionists" and promoters of "underground railroads" kept the North alert to the great ideal of human liberty. The African slave was human. A slave in a free land became, to many, a shame. The shot at Fort Sumter and the call of Father Abraham called out the noblest passions in the Northern states. Our fathers nobly responded. The troops led by the Zouave Drum Corps was a familiar scene.

A volume would be required to recount the names as well as the deeds of those who went forth from Norristown in defense of the Union. Another volume would be necessary to accord a like honor to those who have removed to this vicinity since the war. Out of the many a few will be chosen to memorialize the achievements and honors of all.

Winfield Scott Hancock (1824-1886), son of Benj. F. Hancock, was a soldier by education, who rose by sheer merit to the position of Major-General in the regular army. General Grant said: "Hancock stands the most conspicuous figure of all the general officers who did not exercise a separate command. He commanded a corps longer than any other one, and his name was never mentioned as having committed in battle a blunder for which he was responsible." For his stand on "Little Round Top" in the battle of Gettysburg he became known as "The Superb."

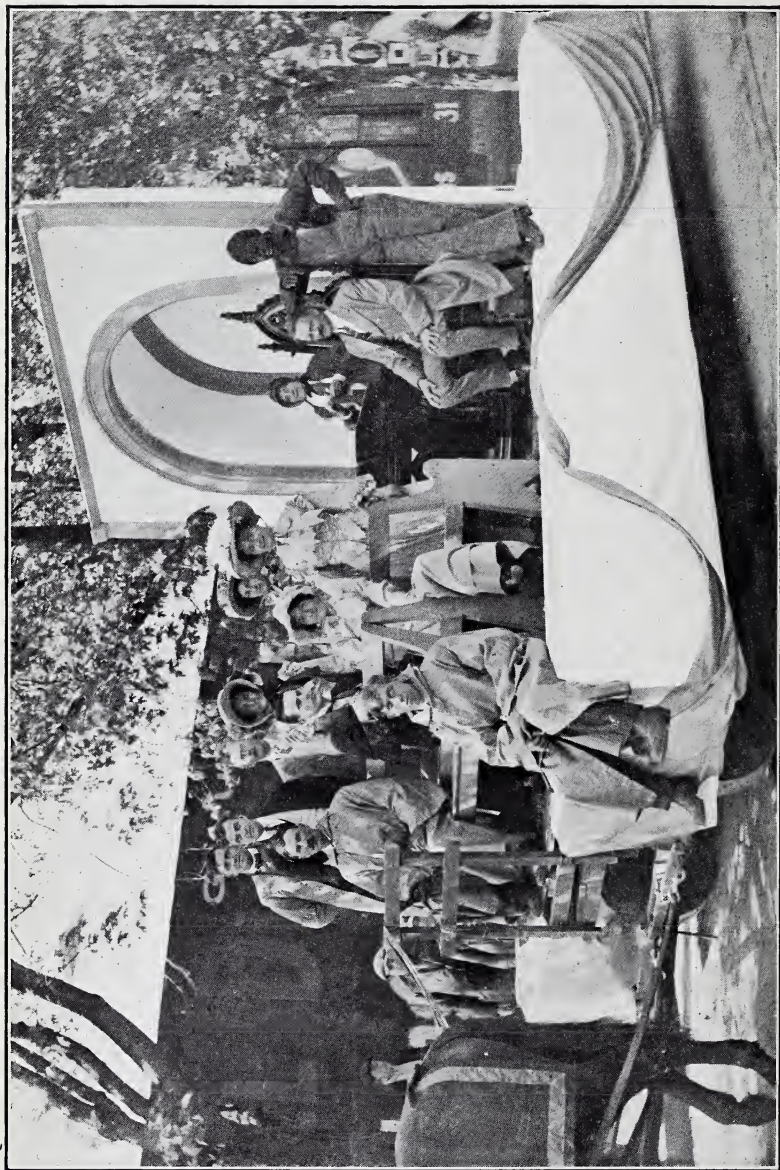
In 1880 Hancock entered the political arena against James A. Garfield for President and suffered defeat. His body lies buried in Montgomery Cemetery, Norristown, not far from the spot where he was born. The Historical Society of Montgomery County has assumed the responsibility for the preservation of his tomb.

John F. Hartranft (1830-1889) was chosen leader of the volunteers from Norristown. He passed successively from the rank of Colonel and Brigadier-General to that of Brevet Major-General. To the honors of war were added the honors of state. He was Governor of Pennsylvania from 1872-1878. A noble granite shaft marks his resting place in Montgomery Cemetery, Norristown.

The name of Schall has continued to be associated with the military enterprises of this vicinity for more than a half century. Five sons of General William Schall, a prominent iron manufacturer of the town, entered the Union Army. Captain Reuben, Lieutenant-Colonel Edwin, Captain Edward, David and Calvin. Lieutenant-Colonel Edwin was killed at Cold Harbor. Colonel John W. Schall, now Major-General of the National Guard, is from another branch of this family.

Other names held in honor are Brigadier-General Adam J. Slemmer, afterwards Brevet Brigadier-General; Colonel William J. Bolton, Brevet Brigadier-General; Major Joseph K. Bolton; Major D. B. Hartranft; Lieutenant-Colonel D. M. Yost; Lieutenant Frederick I. Naile, retired and promoted Commander U. S. N.; Captain Henry K. Weand, Major and Brigadier-General on Staff of Gov. Hartranft; Captain Theodore W. Bean, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel; Captain J. K. Weaver, Colonel and Surgeon General, N. G., Pa.; Medical Director Louis W. Read, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, Brigadier General and Surgeon General on Governor Hartranft's Staff; Assistant Medical Purveyor David R. Beaver; Medical Director John C. Spear; Assistant Surgeons Ellwood M. Corson and Theodore Jacobs; Capt. Walter H. Cooke; Captain W. W. Owen; Captain William Rennyson; First Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp A. S. Buchanan; Lieutenant Henry Jacobs, Captain; Adjutant Charles Hunsicker; Sergeant William W. Potts; Captain's Clerk, U. S. N., Neville D. Tyson; and Thomas J. Stewart, private.

Nor should there be forgotten the notable work of Prof. T. S. C. Lowe, with his balloon service; the tender ministrations of the Lady Attendants upon Hospitals and the kind-



Scene 29. Abolition.

Left to right, pulpit, Miss Anna Paiste as Lucretia Mott, Mr. George N. McGlathery, Mr. Harry Irons. First seat, left to right, Mr. H. B. Glisson, Miss Gertrude Anderson, Miss Elsie Seltzer, Mrs. George N. McGlathery. Second seat, left to right, Mr. R. Ronald Dettre, Mr. Linn A. Dettre, Mr. E. C. A. Moyer, Mrs. Wm. Cull.

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ness of the Woman's Loyal League. Major and Mrs. William H. Holstein served loyally in field and hospital.

Men from Grace Lutheran Church, Haws Avenue M. E. Church, Wildman Manufacturing Company, and Quaker City Shirt Company appeared in this scene.

SCENE 28.

Departure of the Troops.

The first volunteers from Norristown for the Civil War left here April 20, 1861. They marched down DeKalb street in irregular order, led by a flag and a fife and drum. Their families and friends crowded round them. The roadway and the pavements were full of people, men, women and children. The volunteers were on their way for the railroad station at Bridgeport to take the cars for Camp Curtin at Harrisburg. When the bridge tender saw the great crowd coming he closed the bridge gates in order to collect the tolls, but the excited crowd broke down the gates and rushed over without paying.

The first volunteers enlisted for three months. At the expiration of this term of service they returned and re-enlisted for three years. On both occasions they were under the command of Colonel John F. Hartranft. The first volunteers endured privations but fought no battles. The second volunteers left their toll of sacrifices from the Atlantic to the Mississippi.

The marble shaft in the public square of Norristown tells the story of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg and many another bloody field. When the 9th army corps was released from Vicksburg, Miss., Major General U. S. Grant commended them for their "endurance, valor, and general good conduct." When Richmond fell, these same heroes of the 51st Regiment received an honorable discharge at Alexandria, Va. Their honor is our pride.

Characters taken by members of the First Baptist Church. Float contributed by Mr. Adam Scheidt.

SCENE 29.

Abolition.

The meetings of the Society for the abolition of slavery before the Civil War were held in the Baptist Church. The other churches stood aloof from the movement. The few citizens who advocated the matter did so vigorously. Rev. Samuel Aaron and Lucretia Mott were prominent abolitionists, as were the Corson, Roberts, Bodey, Wright, Paxson and a few other families. But the general sentiment was against it. Rev. Nathan Stem, of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, presided at a meeting. The headquarters in this vicinity was the office of Dr. Wm. Corson.

On February 6, 1829, two slaves were tried before the Court of Montgomery County on the charge of being fugitives from their master. Rewards of \$100 each had been offered. A negro enjoying freedom betrayed their whereabouts to their master. He accordingly came to this place, claimed and obtained possession of his slaves.

After the trial when the two slaves with their master were standing around the Norristown Hotel, which stood where Yeakle & Daub's Drug Store now stands, waiting for the stage coach, feelings of resentment ran high in the assembled crowd. A tragedy was probably averted by the action of two public-spirited citizens. Peter Dager bought one of the slaves for \$600, and Ezra Comfort bought the other for \$300. These slaves were then set free and known in this section as John and James Lewis. The slave master, Christian Miller, returned with the price of his slaves to Virginia.

Impersonated by members of the First Baptist Church. Float contributed by Gas and Electric Light Companies.

SCENE 30.

Grand Army of the Republic.

This noble organization had its origin in 1865-6 at Springfield, Ill. The ritual is secret, but all soldiers and sailors of the United States army, marine and navy, who have honorable records, are eligible to membership. Posts are numerous in the North and West. The G. A. R. Post of Norris-



Scene 32. The Holy City.

On throne, left to right, Miss Joanna P. Ross, Miss Lidia M. Barnshaw, now Mrs. Glenn C. Ennis; Miss Mary Heister Weber (Faith, Hope, Love). Foot of throne, left to right, Miss Anna Stewart Heysham, Master Theodore Heysham, Jr. (a little child shall lead them). Left to right, Mr. Wm. Keech (Roman Catholic Cardinal), Mr. Granville Taylor (Prophet), Mr. Geo. E. Weirman (Jewish High Priest), Mr. Turner Moorehead (Labor), Miss Ettabelle F. Johnson (Goddess of Peace), Mr. Walter Adams (Capital), Mr. Elwood W. Webster and Mrs. L. H. Webster.

Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

town is called after General Samuel K. Zook, who lies buried in Montgomery Cemetery. The inscription on his tombstone bears the following illuminating inscription: "Samuel K. Zook, Brigadier and Brevet Major General U. S. Volunteers. Wounded at the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. Killed at Gettysburg July 2, 1863. Aged 41 years."

Members of the Gen. Zook Post appeared in this scene.

The Spirit of '61.

SCENE 31.

Spanish American War, 1888.

The rebellion of 1895 in Cuba, the cruelty of General Weyler, and the destruction of the Maine in Havana harbor, caused President William McKinley to declare "the war in Cuba must stop." The battles of Manila, Santiago and San Juan Hill practically determined the fate of the Spanish arms on this side of the Atlantic. General John W. Schall, Medical Director J. K. Weaver, and Co. F., N. G., went forth from Norristown.

The Boy Scouts appeared in this scene and the one following.

Flag from Gettysburg.

SCENE 32.

The Holy City.

This scene represented the three great ideals of human society and modern civilization—religious peace, industrial peace and national peace. The three virtues, faith, hope and charity or love, are symbolized by the three ladies clad in Grecian costumes on the throne. The children point the way to the representatives of Religion—a Jewish High Priest, a Roman Catholic Cardinal and a Protestant clergyman. Their prayer is "that they all may be one." Just beyond are symbolized Capital and Labor; Peace and War, with the goddess of peace presenting the symbol of peace, the olive wreath. It is the prophecy of the future as it was the song of the angels, "Peace on earth and good will among men."

The idea of Christian Unity was first advocated in Norristown by Rev. Theodore Heysham, Ph. D. So vigorous was his campaign for this cause and so cordial was the

response in the hearts of the people to the ideal that at the expiration of a year twenty-two churches closed their doors the last Sunday evening in January, 1909, and assembled in the Grand Opera House. It was the most representative gathering of Christian men and women ever congregated under one roof in the history of the town. Dr. Robert E. Speer, of New York city, secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, gave an address on "Lessons Regarding Christian Unity from the Foreign Missions of the Church." The Hon. Aaron S. Swartz presided.

Two years later, February 2, 1911, Mr. George Wharton Pepper, LL. D., D. C. L., addressed a union meeting of ministers and laymen, representing forty-five Evangelical churches of Norristown, Bridgeport, Conshohocken and vicinity, upon the theme, "The Present Task of the Church, Unity." This meeting was held in the First Baptist Church. Dr. J. K. Weaver presided.

On Religious Day of Centennial Week, Sunday, May 5, 1912, at a mass meeting in the Grand Opera House of Norristown, N. H. Larzelere, Esq., said in the course of his address: "It is gratifying to note that the trend of church people is toward Christian Unity. Strong, sensible men, with broad vision should hasten this work." And the Hon. Aaron S. Swartz, President Judge of Montgomery county, declared: "This is a town of churches and church-going people. We are broad-minded and liberal. Christian Unity finds a responsive chord in our hearts."

Impersonated by members of the Trinity Lutheran, St. John's Episcopal, First Presbyterian, Central Presbyterian, First Methodist and Bridgeport Baptist Churches.

KENDLE QUARTETTE—Cornet and Trombone.

This consisted of two cornetists and two trombonists. They followed The Holy City float in the pageant playing such selections as "The Holy City," "Nearer, My God, To Thee," and others. The effect was very impressive and made a fitting climax to the Historical Pageant of Norristown's first centennial.

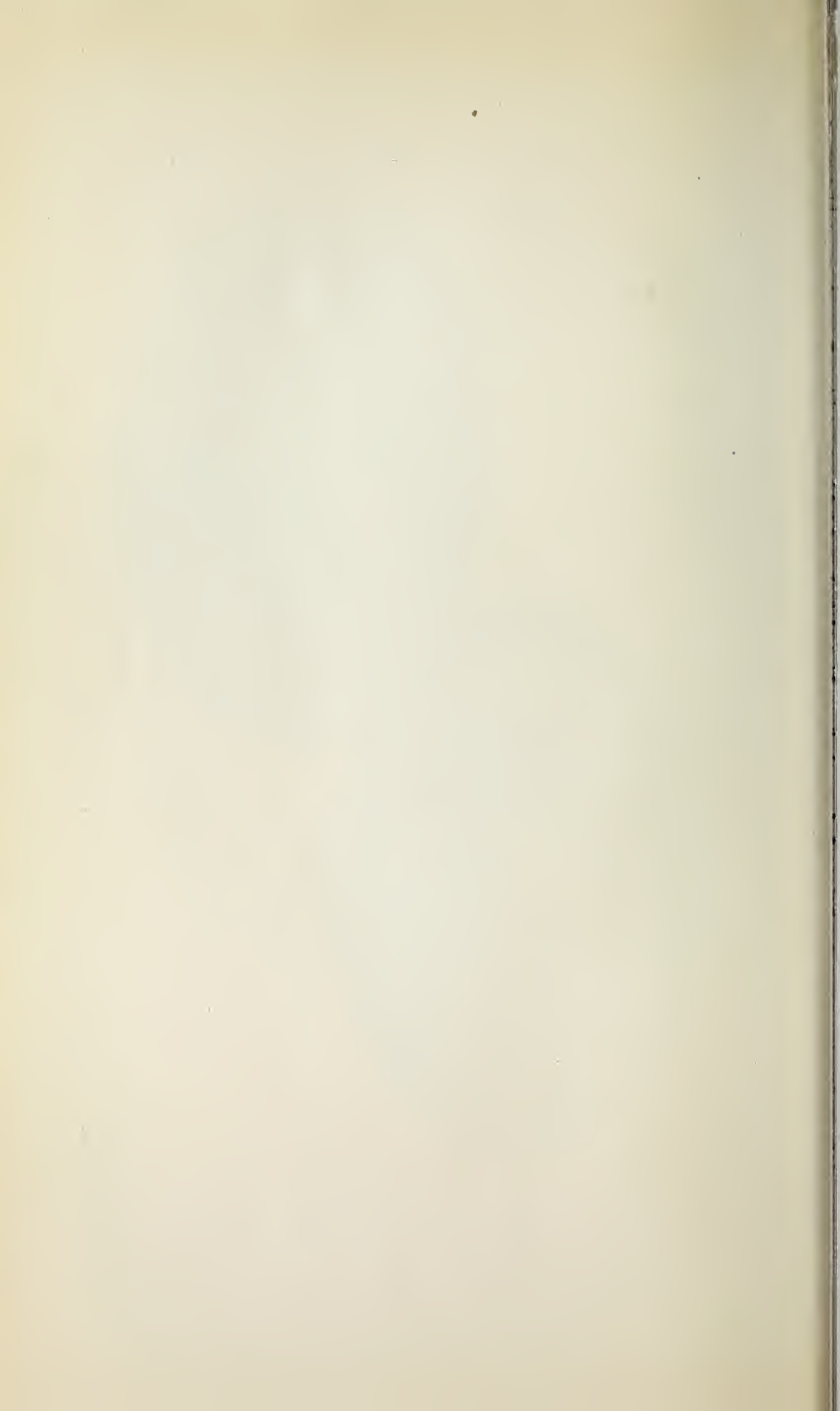


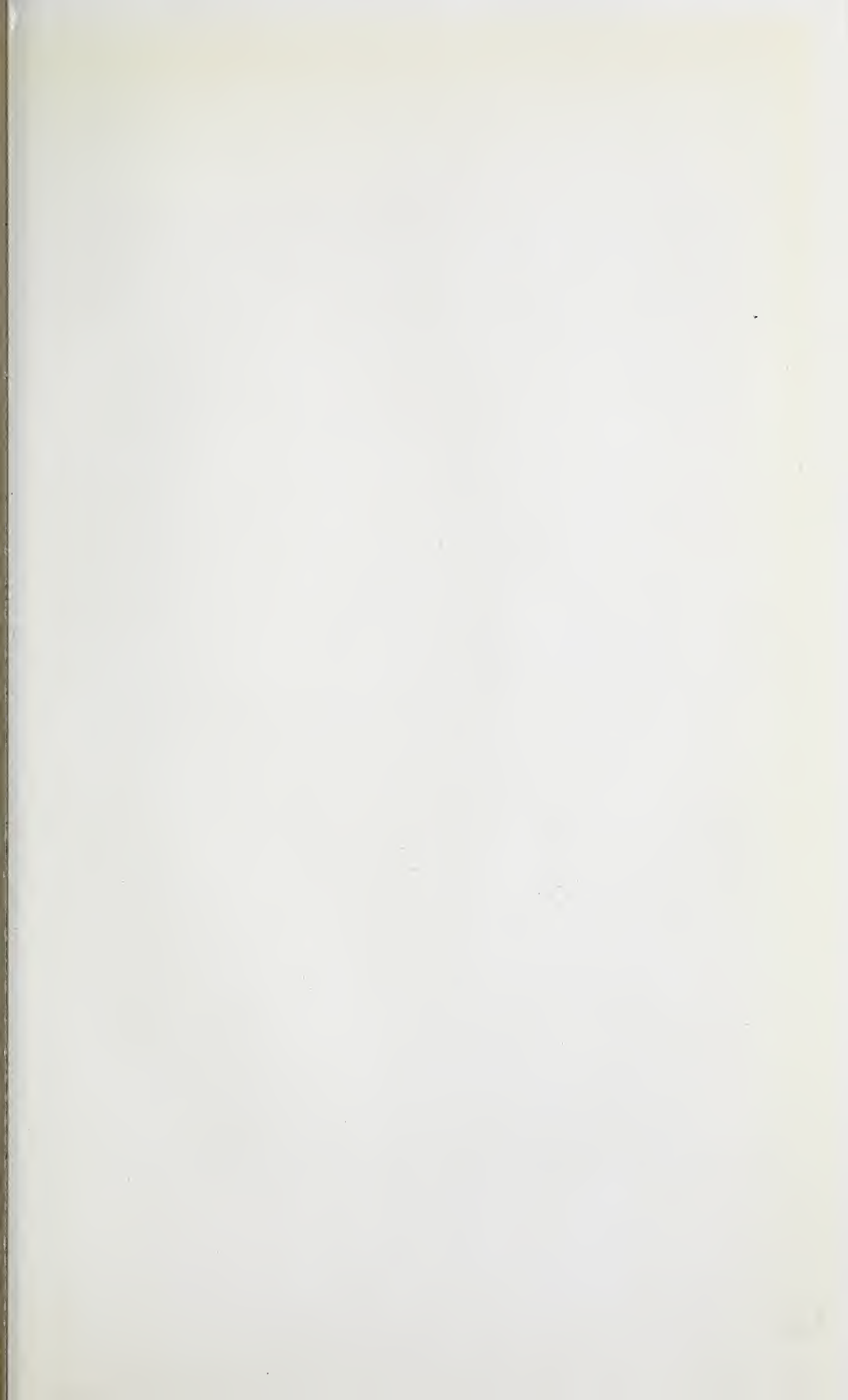
Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

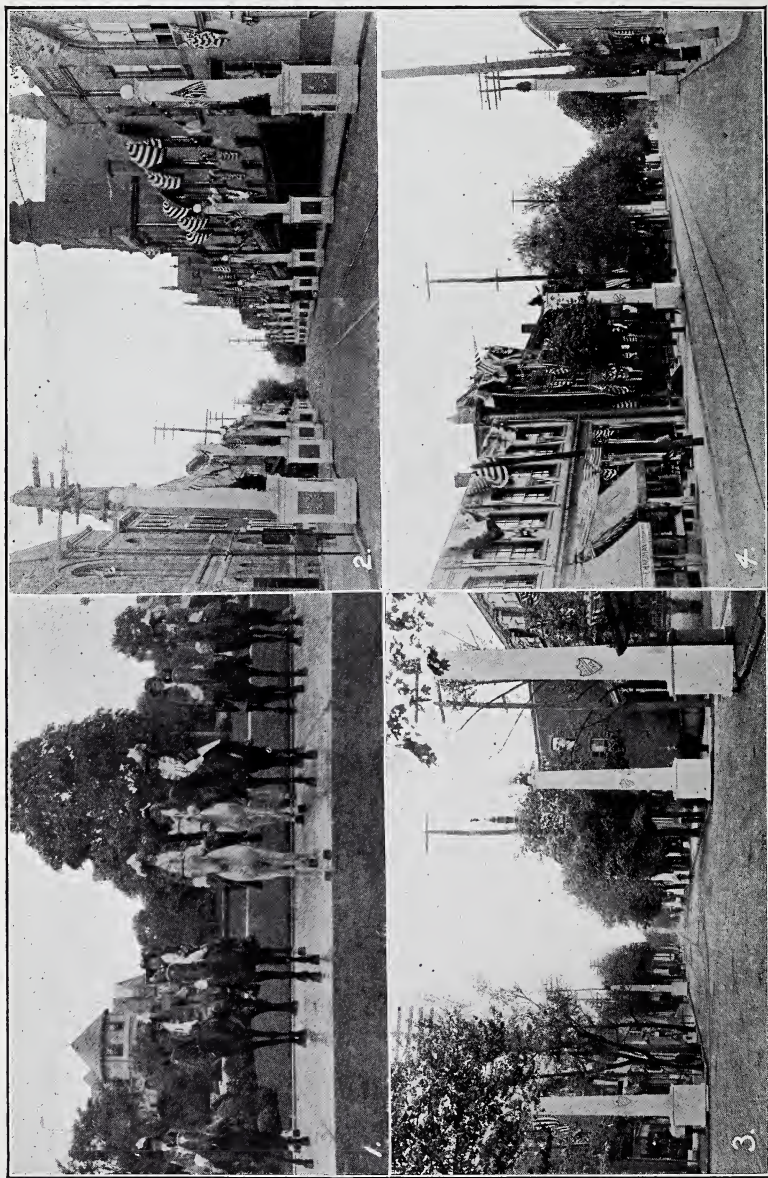
1. Rev. Theodore Heysham, Ph. D., Captain, Organizer and Director.
2. Mr. Samuel Roberts, Grand Captain and Treasurer.

PAGEANT GUARD.

These four mounted men protected the rear of the pageant against the intrusion of disturbing elements, and thus heightened the enjoyment of the music by the quartette and the beauty of the Holy City float as well as preserved the dignity of the pageant to the end.







Norristown Centennial, May 5-11, 1912.

1. Grand Captain and Grand Marshals, DeKalb and Freedley streets.
2. DeKalb street, south from Marshall street.
3. Marshall street, west from Astor street.
4. Marshall street, east from George street.

HISTORICAL PAGEANT.

Organizer and Director of the Pageant,

REV. THEODORE HEYSHAM, Ph. D.

Treasurer,

MR. SAMUEL ROBERTS.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

MR. H. B. TYSON.

MR. SAMUEL ROBERTS.

JOSEPH KNOX FORNANCE, Esq.

THEODORE LANE BEAN, Esq.

FRANKLIN L. WRIGHT, Esq.

MR. CHARLES NORRIS RAMBO.

GEORGE WANGER, Esq.

MR. H. SEVERN REGAR.

REV. THEODORE HEYSHAM, Ph. D.

HISTORICAL SCENES SUGGESTED BY

MR. JOSEPH FORNANCE, President of Historical Society.

IRVIN P. KNIPE, Esq.

MR. S. CAMERON CORSON.

BURGESS SAMUEL W. LATTIMORE.

HON. IRVING P. WANGER.

MRS. A. CONRAD JONES.

JOSEPH KNOX FORNANCE, Esq.

REV. THEODORE HEYSHAM, Ph. D.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Those who made the Historical Pageant possible. Their names and gifts are recorded in the Historical Pageant Report given in full in this volume.

COMMITTEE ON PAGEANT PROGRAMME.

MR. JOSEPH FORNANCE, President of Historical Society.

REV. THEODORE HEYSHAM, Ph. D.

COSTUMER.

MR. JOSEPH C. FISCHER, Philadelphia.

PAGEANT PERSONNEL.

MOUNTED MEN.

GRAND CAPTAIN.

Mr. Samuel Roberts.

GRAND MARSHALS.

Mr. J. Frank Boyer.

O. F. Lenhardt, Esq.

ASSISTANT GRAND MARSHALS.

Mr. S. Russell Neiman.

Mr. Harry P. Hiltner.

Mr. William C. Benner.

Mr. William O. Yost.

Mr. J. Harding Reese.

Mr. B. Frank Stritzinger.

Mr. Frederick E. Dyer.

Mr. Benj. F. Evans.

CAPTAIN.

Rev. Theodore Heysham, Ph. D.

GRAND DIVISIONS.

A.

BAND.—Germania—Dutch Uniform.

DIVISION GRAND MARSHAL.

Albert Rowland Garner, M. D.

ASSISTANT DIVISION GRAND MARSHALS.

Mr. Charles W. Walker (Devon). Mr. Lewis Y. Smith (Bridgeport).

HERALDS.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. H. Wilson Stalnecker, Esq. | 4. Mr. Charles T. Mather
(Wayne). |
| 2. Mr. Futhey J. Smith. | 5. George W. Miller, M. D. |
| 3. John Hyatt Naylor, Esq. | 6. Mr. Morgan Hunter. |

B.

BAND.—Norristown—Scotch Uniforms.

DIVISION GRAND MARSHAL.

Mr. J. Clarence Moyer.

ASSISTANT DIVISION GRAND MARSHALS.

Mr. Percy J. Fell.

Mr. William A. March.

HERALDS.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 7. Mr. H. Severn Regar. | 11. Mr. Jacob Fisher. |
| 8. Mr. Kenneth Stauffer. | 12. Mr. Ludwig Stauffer. |
| 9. Mr. Elwood Fisher. | 13. Mr. Harold Zimmerman. |
| 10. Mr. Brooke Barrett. | 14. Mr. Edwin Wentz. |
| 15. Mr. Paul Stauffer. | |



Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

1. Mr. H. B. Tyson, Grand Marshal, Division C.
2. O. F. Lenhardt, Esq., Grand Marshal.
3. Mr. J. Frank Boyer, Grand Marshal.

C.

BAND.—Philharmonic (Reading)—Colonial Uniform.

DIVISION GRAND MARSHAL.

Mr. H. B. Tyson.

ASSISTANT DIVISION GRAND MARSHALS.

Mr. James Cresson.

G. Carroll Hoover, Esq.

HERALDS.

16. Norwood Matthias, Esq.

GENERALS.

George Washington—Mr. Harvey A. Detwiler.

Anthony Wayne—Mr. Walter L. High.

Peter Muhlenberg—Mr. Irvin C. Hoover.

17. Mr. Arthur Williams.

General Clinton—Mr. C. S. Schlosser.

18. Mr. Z. T. Smith.

General Lafayette—Mr. Eli Wismer.

D.

BAND.—Philharmonic (Reading)—Washington Gray.

DIVISION GRAND MARSHAL.

J. Ambler Williams, Esq.

ASSISTANT DIVISION GRAND MARSHALS.

Henry C. Welker, M. D.

Mr. Thomas H. Livezey.

HERALDS.

19. Mr. Ralph Lanz.

20. Mr. William G. Barber (Bridgeport).

21. Mr. Howell Seiple.

22. Mr. Raymond Lanz.

23. Mr. John J. Hughes, 2nd.

24. Mr. Carl Detwiler.

25. Mr. Francis Jamison.

26. Mr. James Alleva.

E.

DRUM CORPS.—20th Century—Zouave Uniform.

DIVISION GRAND MARSHAL.

Mr. Howard Simpson.

ASSISTANT DIVISION GRAND MARSHALS.

Mr. William Jarrett.

Mr. Wallace Hitner

HERALDS.

27. Mr. Donald Roberts.
General Winfield Scott Hancock—Dr. Calvin Eroh.
28. Mr. George W. Armstrong, Jr.
29. Mr. Gustave A. Lanz.
30. Mr. H. Milton Kratz.
31. Mr. George Hitchcock.
32. Mr. Thomas Kingston.

LINE OF MARCH.

Started on Main and Arch. Main to Hamilton, to Marshall, to Swede, to Airy, to DeKalb, to Fornance, to Powell, to Swede, to Airy.

There was a review of the pageant at City Hall by the officials of the Borough, officers of the Historical Society, committees and guests.

A grand review took place at the Court House just before dismissal by the Grand Captain and his staff and the Captain.



Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

1. Mr. William C. Benner, Assistant Grand Marshal.
2. Mr. William O. Yost, Assistant Grand Marshal.
3. Mr. S. Russell Neiman, Assistant Grand Marshal.

HISTORICAL PAGEANT REPORT

Presented to the Historical Society of Montgomery County, November 16, 1912, by Rev. Theodore Heysham, Ph. D.

The first historical pageant of the borough of Norristown has passed, with credit and with appreciation, into history. The report of the labors of those who toiled for its success, will this day, I trust, take its place with honor in the annals of the Historical Society.

As organizer and director of this first historical pageant of the borough of Norristown, acting in behalf of the Historical Society of Montgomery County, I cherish the privilege of this occasion: First, to acknowledge with appreciation the honor conferred upon me by the Historical Society; second, to state with what genuine gratitude I recall the unstinted confidence and generous support of the business public; and third, to confess the deep sense of obligation I feel toward all, who, by suggestion or assistance, helped to make the historical pageant a credit to the community and worthy of appreciative remembrance.

Nor would I forget the kind words of appreciation so generously expressed with reference to the success of the pageant. Appreciative as I am of this honor, I, nevertheless, desire to share it with all who assisted in making the pageant what it was, and especially with Mr. Samuel Roberts and Joseph Fornance, Esq., President of the Historical Society. Their assistance, in different spheres, made it possible for me to bear the burdens incident to the undertaking and for the borough to witness a creditable pageant.

Although the responsibility of collecting money, gathering together materials and men, making decisions as to historical scenes to be presented and working out the plan of the pageant fell on me, I, nevertheless, consulted and advised with all with whom I could, and sought to express as best I could the desires not of one but of all the people.

Besides serving as Grand Captain, Mr. Samuel Roberts also took care of the finances. All moneys collected were sent to him and all bills were paid by him. His account is incorporated in this report. It shows contributions in cash amounting to \$2700.21 with a balance of \$13.64 to be turned over to the Historical Society. If to the cash contributions of \$2700.21 there be added the value represented in all the other contributions specified in the report, plus the commission of a professional pageant builder, it will be apparent that the historical pageant of Norristown, May 10, 1912, could not have been produced for much less than \$5000.

All these contributions were generously and freely made. There was also no charge for services on the part of myself or of any of the committee. All served freely and cheerfully. The item (38) referring to "pictures taken" was for an event after the pageant was over. The cost was borne by those who participated and the balance \$6.30 turned into the treasury. Item (1) under "expenses" shows an "allowance for band costumes not used" of \$101.48. This is a concession which I secured from the costumer, Mr. Joseph C. Fischer. And in this connection I desire to express my appreciation of his services and equipments.

RECEIPTS.

1	Gas and Electric Light Co. of Montg. Co.	\$171 00
2	Grater-Bodey Co.	22 00
3	Mr. H. B. Tyson	75 00
4	Mr. J. Frank Boyer	20 00
5	D. M. Yost & Co.	20 00
6	Mr. Marcus Hydeman	25 00
7	Mr. Isaac Richards	10 00
8	Freas Styer, Esq.	5 00
9	Mr. Harry B. Stallman	25 00
10	Montgomery National Bank	20 00
11	Norristown Trust Co.	75 00
12	Penn Trust Co.	25 00
13	Montgomery Trust Co.	50 00
14	Norristown Water Co.	150 00
15	Mr. Adam Scheidt	189 40
16	Merchants Ice Co.	20 00
17	Mrs. M. J. Fell	10 00
18	Mr. Lafayette Ross	5 00
19	First Baptist Church	12 00
20	First Methodist Episcopal Church	16 00
21	Mr. F. B. Wildman	50 00
22	W. K. Gresh & Sons	75 00





Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

1. Albert Rowland Garner, M. D., Grand Marshal, Division A.
2. Mr. Kenneth Stauffer, Herald 8.
3. Mr. Edwin Wentz, Herald 14.

23	Borough of Norristown	\$1140 00
24	N. H. Larzelere, Esq.	10 00
25	Mr. Charles F. Cloud	5 00
26	Mr. Charles Major	5 00
27	Mr. Charles Johnson	5 00
28	Historical Society of Montgomery County	270 78
29	Mr. L. G. Stritzinger	10 00
30	Peoples National Bank	25 00
31	Mr. Benjamin Quillman	10 00
32	Mr. Joseph Curren	5 00
33	Evans & McGuirk	5 00
34	Mr. Charles Norris Rambo	5 00
35	Sale of Pageant Programs	20 92—\$2587 10
36	Mounted men who paid for costumes (53)	
1	Mr. Samuel Roberts	\$2 00
2	Mr. J. Frank Boyer	2 00
3	O. F. Lenhardt, Esq.	2 00
4	Mr. S. Russell Neiman	2 00
5	Mr. William C. Benner	2 00
6	Mr. J. Harding Reese	2 00
7	Mr. Frederick E. Dyer	2 00
8	Mr. Harry P. Hiltner	2 00
9	Mr. William O. Yost	2 00
10	Mr. B. Frank Stritzinger	2 00
11	Mr. Benjamin F. Evans	2 00
12	Rev. Theo. Heysham, Ph. D.	2 00
13	Albert Rowland Garner, M. D.	2 00
14	Mr. Chas. W. Walker (Devon)	2 00
15	Mr. Lewis Y. Smith (Bridgeport)	2 00
16	H. Wilson Stahlnecker, Esq.	2 00
17	Mr. J. Futhey Smith	2 00
18	John Hyatt Naylor, Esq.	2 00
19	Mr. Chas. T. Mather (Wayne)	2 00
20	George W. Miller, M. D.	2 00
21	Mr. Morgan Hunter	2 00
22	Mr. J. Clarence Moyer	2 00
23	Mr. Percy J. Fell	2 00
24	Mr. H. Severn Regar	2 00
25	Mr. James Cresson	2 00
26	G. Carroll Hoover, Esq.	2 00
27	Norwood Matthias, Esq.	2 00
28	Mr. Harvey A. Detwiler	2 00
29	Mr. Walter L. High	2 00
30	Mr. Irvin C. Hoover	2 00
31	Mr. Arthur Williams	2 00
32	Mr. C. S. Schlosser	2 00
33	Mr. Z. T. Smith	2 00
34	Mr. Eli Wismer	2 00
35	J. Ambler Williams, Esq.	2 00
36	Henry C. Welker, M. D.	2 00
37	Mr. Thomas H. Livezey	2 00
38	Mr. William G. Barber (Bridgeport)	2 00
39	Mr. Howard Seiple	2 00
40	Mr. Raymond Lanz	2 00
41	Mr. John J. Hughes, 2nd	2 00
42	Mr. Carl Detwiler	2 00
43	Mr. Francis Jamison	2 00

44	Mr. Howard Simpson	\$2 00	
45	Mr. William Jarrett	2 00	
46	Mr. Wallace Hitner	2 00	
47	Mr. Donald Roberts	2 00	
48	Dr. Calvin Eroh	2 00	
49	Mr. Geo. W. Armstrong, Jr.	2 00	
50	Mr. Gustav A. Lanz	2 00	
51	Mr. George Hitchcock	2 00	
52	Mr. Thomas Kingston	2 00	
53	Mr. H. B. Tyson	2 00	106 00
37	Interest on money deposited		81
38	Balance after getting pictures taken		6 30
			<hr/>
			\$2700 21

EXPENSES.

1	Mr. Joseph C. Fischer, costumer:		
	724 costumes, \$2.00 per	\$1448 00	
	230 guns, 50c. per	115 00	
	6 pairs gauntlets (Generals) \$1.50 per	9 00	
	60 pairs cotton gloves (horsemen) 15c.	9 00	
	8 white court wigs—"Fete Float," 75c	6 00	
	Costumes, Chain street school float	6 00	
	Adams Express Co., guns returned.....	14 48	
		<hr/>	1607 48
	Allowance for band costumes not used	101 48	—\$1506 00
2	Grater-Bodey Company:		
	Frames for maps	\$13 50	
	Church models	22 70	
	Trappers hut float	18 00	
	Abolition float	49 00	
	Log house float	65 00	
	Departure of troops float	75 40	
	Governor signs charter float	57 00	
	Holy City float	132 00	— 432 60
3	Music:		
	Norristown band.....		
	Germania band		
	Philharmonic (Reading)		
	20th Century Drum Corps		
		<hr/>	\$333 33
	S. H. Kendle, quartette	27 76	— 361 09
4	Mr. Wm. C. Benner, 71 saddle cloths, \$1.50 per		106 50
5	Adams Express Company, guns		15 05
6	Mr. C. Custer, painting models, churches, Old Academy		42 50
7	Norristown Herald, 100 pageant programs		39 50
8	Norristown Addressing Company		9 00
9	D. M. Yost & Co.		18 15
10	Janitors' services, 5 churches, Y. M. C. A., Co. F.,		35 00
11	Mr. Benj. F. Wager, carpenter work		2 18
12	Mr. W. H. Ortlip, painting maps		25 00
13	Dr. H. C. Dengler, two coupes		8 00
14	Mr. Harry F. Parvin, 2 horses		6 00



Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

1. Mr. Benj. F. Evans, Assistant Grand Marshal.
2. Mr. Z. T. Smith, Herald 18.
3. Mr. William G. Barber (Bridgeport), Herald 20.

15 Personal and miscellaneous expenses, Dr. Heysham ..	\$ 80 00
	2686 57
By balance	13 64
	<u>\$2700 21</u>

SAMUEL ROBERTS, Treasurer.

Contributors and their Contributions.

Much represented under this head was either supplied or paid for direct by the contributor. It was, therefore, impossible to credit this value in the treasurer's report, but acknowledgment is here made as fully and specifically as possible.

1 Those who furnished and equipped floats as well as provided horses, drivers and outriders and paid for all decorations and costumes on the same:

- 1 Grater-Bodey CompanyTwo floats
- 2 Gas and Electric Light Co. of Montg. Co...One float
- 3 Mr. H. B. TysonOne float
- 4 D. M. Yost & Co.One float
- 5 Mr. Adam ScheidtTwo floats
- 6 Merchants Ice CompanyOne float
- 7 Philadelphia and Reading R. R. Co.....One float
- 8 Baldwin's Locomotive WorksOne float
- 9 Woman's Suffrage AssociationOne float
- 9 W. C. T. U.One float
- 10 Mr. J. Frank BoyerOne float
- 11 Montgomery Hose CompanyOne float

2 Those who furnished and equipped floats as well as provided horses, drivers and outriders for the same.

- 1 Neiman & FreyOne float
- 2 Druggists AssociationOne float
- 3 Rambo & RegarOne float

3 Those who furnished horses, wagons and drivers.

- 1 Mr. W. M. SullivanOne 2-horse team with driver
- 2 Leitchhammer Bak. Co..One 4-horse team with driver

4 Those who furnished either floats or wagons or horses and drivers.

- 1 Grater-Bodey Company.....One wagon
- 2 Gas and Electric Light Co..One float
- 3 Mr. H. B. Tyson.....One wagon
- 4 Neiman & Frey.....Two wagons
- 5 B. Evans & Bro.....Four horses and drivers
- 6 Mr. T. V. Smith.....Four horses and drivers
- 7 Mr. Daniel Sinclair, Jr.....Two horses and driver
- 8 Bodey & Solomon.....Horses and driver
- 9 Mr. B. Frank Stritzinger...Horses and driver
- 10 Mr. Wm. Schwartz.....One float
- 11 Chain St. public school....One float

- 5 Churches furnishing models and paying for costumes. Other help.
 - 1 First Baptist Church.
 - 2 First M. E. Church.
 - 3 Reformed Church of the Ascension.
 - 4 Trinity Lutheran Church loaned pulpit, furniture, etc.
 - 5 Block Bros.—loaned furniture.
- 6 Those furnishing or paying for their own costumes.
 - 1 St. John's P. E. Church.
 - 2 53 mounted men, Grand Captain, Captain, Marshals, Generals and Heralds.
 - 3 Lodges of Red Men.
 - 4 Miss Anna Paiste.
- 7 Public buildings loaned for costuming purposes.
 - 1 First Baptist Church.
 - 2 Bethany Evangelical Church.
 - 3 Oak Street M. E. Church.
 - 4 First M. E. Church.
 - 5 Trinity Lutheran Church.
 - 6 Y. M. C. A.
 - 7 City Hall.
 - 8 Armory Co. F, National Guard.
- 8 Those furnishing automobiles to assist in forming the pageant.
 - 1 Mr. Samuel Roberts.
 - 2 Mr. H. B. Tyson.
 - 3 John H. Rex, Esq.
 - 4 Mr. P. V. Hoy.
 - 5 Mr. J. Truman Ebert.

And now in laying down the burden of this responsibility, conscious that we have done our best and of your appreciation; grateful that all bills are paid and a balance in the treasury, permit me to make some suggestions for the preservation of the Historical Pageant for future generations.

1. That an album of the Pageant, with as complete a set of pictures of the Pageant and the decorations of the town as can be secured, be placed in the Historical Society.

2. That the negatives of these pictures collected at great cost of time and patience become the possession of the Historical Society.

3. That suitable provision be made for the use and preservation of such negatives by the Historical Society.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE HEYSHAM,
Organizer and Director.





Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

1. G. Carroll Hoover, Esq., Assistant Grand Marshal, Division C.
2. Henry C. Welker, M. D., Assistant Grand Marshal, Division D.
3. Mr. Percy J. Fell, Assistant Grand Marshal, Division B.

Pageant Lecture Report.

Presented to the public through the newspapers of Norristown, April 5, 1913, by Rev. Theodore Heysham, Ph. D.

"It gives me pleasure to report to the public the outcome of the illustrated lecture on the Historical Pageant of Norristown's Centennial, held in the Grand Opera House on the evening of February 25, 1913.

"The entertainment was a success in every way. The attendance was large and the proceeds not only covered expenses, but enabled me to plan for the fitting preservation of the historical booklet, as well as to secure for the future a part of the public school pageant.

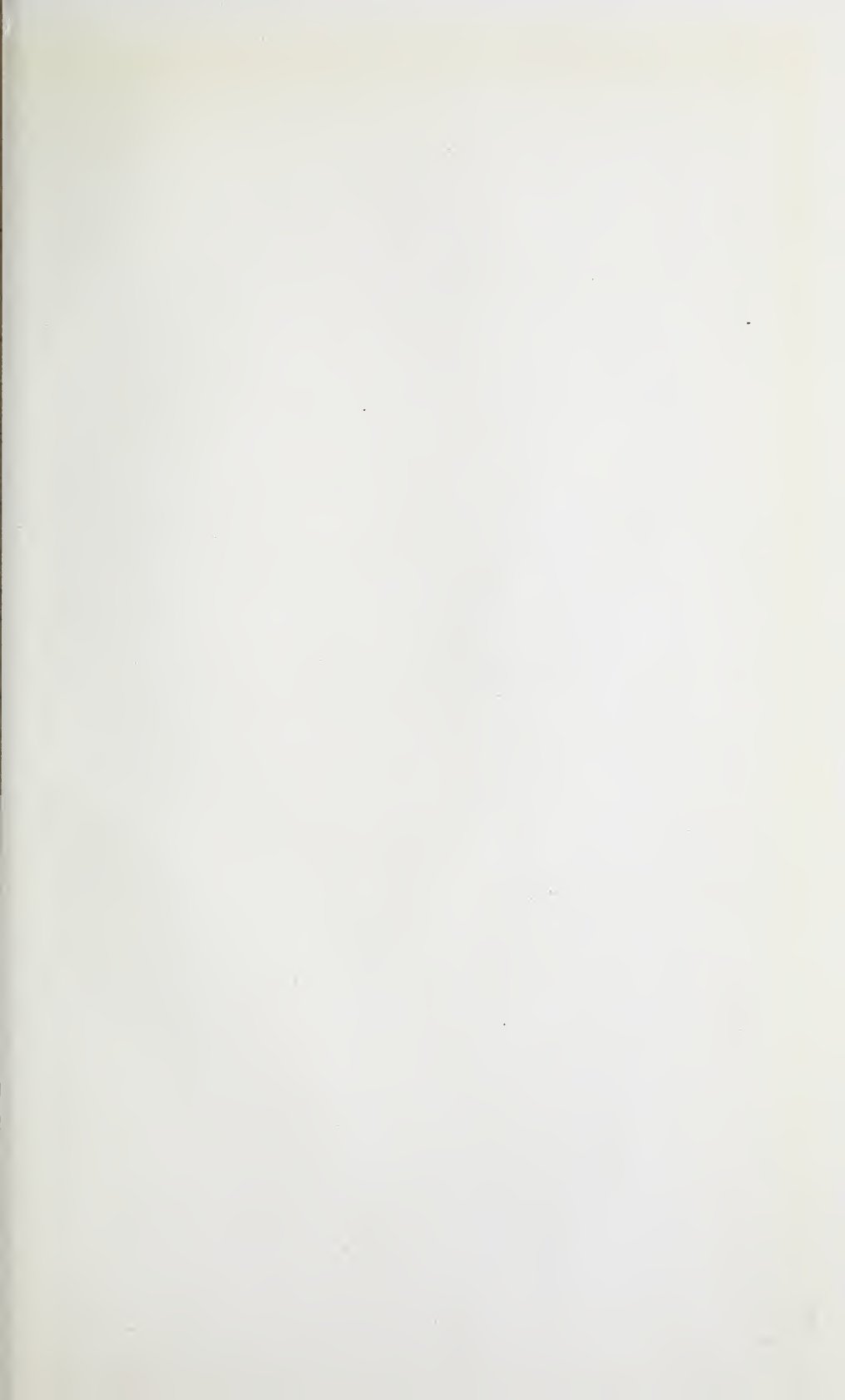
"To those who assisted in making this work possible, I desire to express my sincere appreciation. The names of the patrons and those who assisted in the distribution of tickets are appended. I also desire to render a double measure of thanks to the Schuylkill Traction Company for their kindness in providing a special car, free of charge, for the Ursinus College Glee Club and for a similar favor, which was unacknowledged in my report on the historical pageant, when they provided transportation for the college boys who participated in the pageant last May. I regret this oversight, but will render full credit in the revised booklet.

"When I shall have completed the publication of the little book descriptive of the historical pageant, placed the large album containing over 250 pictures of the historical pageant, street scenes and decorations, groups of citizens and public buildings, together with the negatives of the same, in the care of the Historical Society of Montgomery County, I shall think that the part of the first centennial of our borough for which I feel responsibility has been adequately and worthily preserved.

"The receipts and expenditures connected with the pageant lecture on February 25th, are as follows:

RECEIPTS.

D. M. Yost Company	\$5 00
Mr. H. H. Ganser	5 00
Mr. Joseph A. Curren	5 00
Mr. H. B. Tyson	5 00
Mr. Samuel Roberts	5 00
Mr. Adam Scheidt	5 00
Rambo & Regar	5 00
Mr. H. C. Gresh	5 00
Mr. B. Frank Stritzinger	2 50
Mr. S. Russell Neiman	2 50
Mr. B. F. Evans	2 50
Mr. Frank L. Smith	2 50
Mr. H. R. Stallman	2 50
Mr. M. Hydeman	2 50
Mr. Samuel K. Anders	2 50
Mr. George R. Kite	2 50
Montgomery Evans, Esq.	2 50
Mr. Henry C. Warner	2 50
Mr. L. G. Stritzinger	2 50
Mr. F. B. Wildman	2 50
Mr. C. H. Alderfer	2 50
Mr. Wm. H. Shoffner	2 50
Mr. Frank R. Heavner	2 50
Mr. Wm. H. Weber	2 50
Mr. Harry Hiltner	2 50
Mr. Edwin Metcalf	2 50
Mr. J. Harding Reese	2 50
Mr. Ambrose B. Umstead	2 50
Mr. Thomas Jamison	2 50
Mr. Frank Lutz	2 50
J. Ambler Williams, Esq.	2 50
Mr. Ed. C. A. Moyer	2 50
Mr. Albert Illingworth	2 50
Miss Lydia Barnshaw	3 00
Miss Elizabeth Royle	3 00
C. T. Larzelere, Esq.	2 00
Mr. Walter L. High and G. Carroll Hoover, Esq...	2 00
Mr. Wm. G. Barber	2 25
Mr. Samuel W. Lattimore	2 00
Mr. George Weirman	4 00
Mr. Harvey Rex	4 25
O. F. Lenhardt, Esq.	1 00
Mr. Thomas V. Smith	1 00
Miss Anna S. Heysham	1 25
Mr. A. J. Schissler	1 00
Mr. Harvey A. Detwiler	1 25
Mr. E. J. Wanner	1 00
Mr. S. Cameron Corson	1 50
Mr. Howard Simpson	1 50
Mr. Percy J. Fell	1 25
Mr. John H. O'Neill	1 50
Mr. Harry W. Akins	1 00
Mr. Thomas Kingston	1 50
George W. Stein, M. D.	1 50
Joseph Knox Fornance, Esq.	50
Miss Frances M. Fox	75





Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

1. Mr. Howard Simpson, Grand Marshal, Division E.
2. Mr. William Jarrett, Assistant Grand Marshal, Division E.
3. Mr. Wallace Hitner, Assistant Grand Marshal, Division E.

Rev. Benoni Bates	\$	50
Mr. Russell E. Crawford		75
Rev. Frank E. Graeff		75
A. R. Garner, M. D.		25
Mr. Lewis Y. Smith		25
Mr. John Hartman		25
Miss Katherine Kutz		25
Mr. Leonard Allen		25
Mr. Edward Simpson		50
H. W. Stahlnecker, Esq.		50
Mr. Wesley B. Beyer		50
Sale of tickets for Grand Opera House		166 55
Total		<u>\$313 80</u>

EXPENSES.

Grand Opéra House	\$90 00
Orchestra	40 00
Herald, printing and advertising	8 85
Times, advertising	4 80
Register, advertising	4 80
Slides, operator, general expenses	110 50
Total	<u>\$258 95</u>
Receipts	\$313 80
Expenses	<u>\$258 95</u>
Balance	\$54 85

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}} \right) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial x}$$
[illegible]

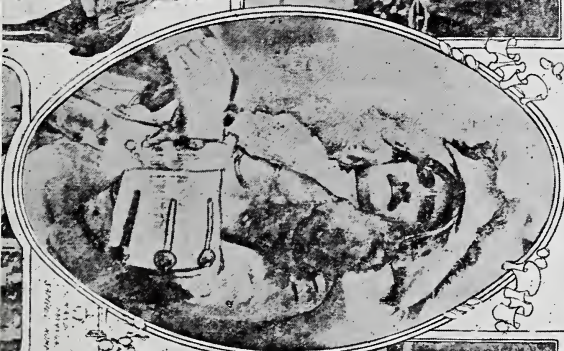
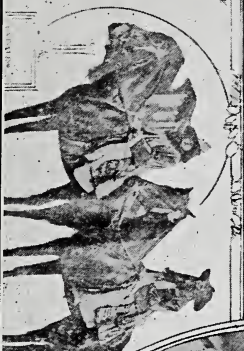
PHILADELPHIA, MAY 11, 1912

ONE CENT

Deeds

DO IT NOW

A black and white photograph of a large, multi-story building, possibly a school or government building, with a prominent central tower and many windows. The building is surrounded by trees and a fence in the foreground.



THE SPINNET 2198

HISTORIC PAGEANT
MARKS NORRISTOWN'S
GREAT CENTENNIAL

*Hispanic Do-Mark
Advertisers' Committee*

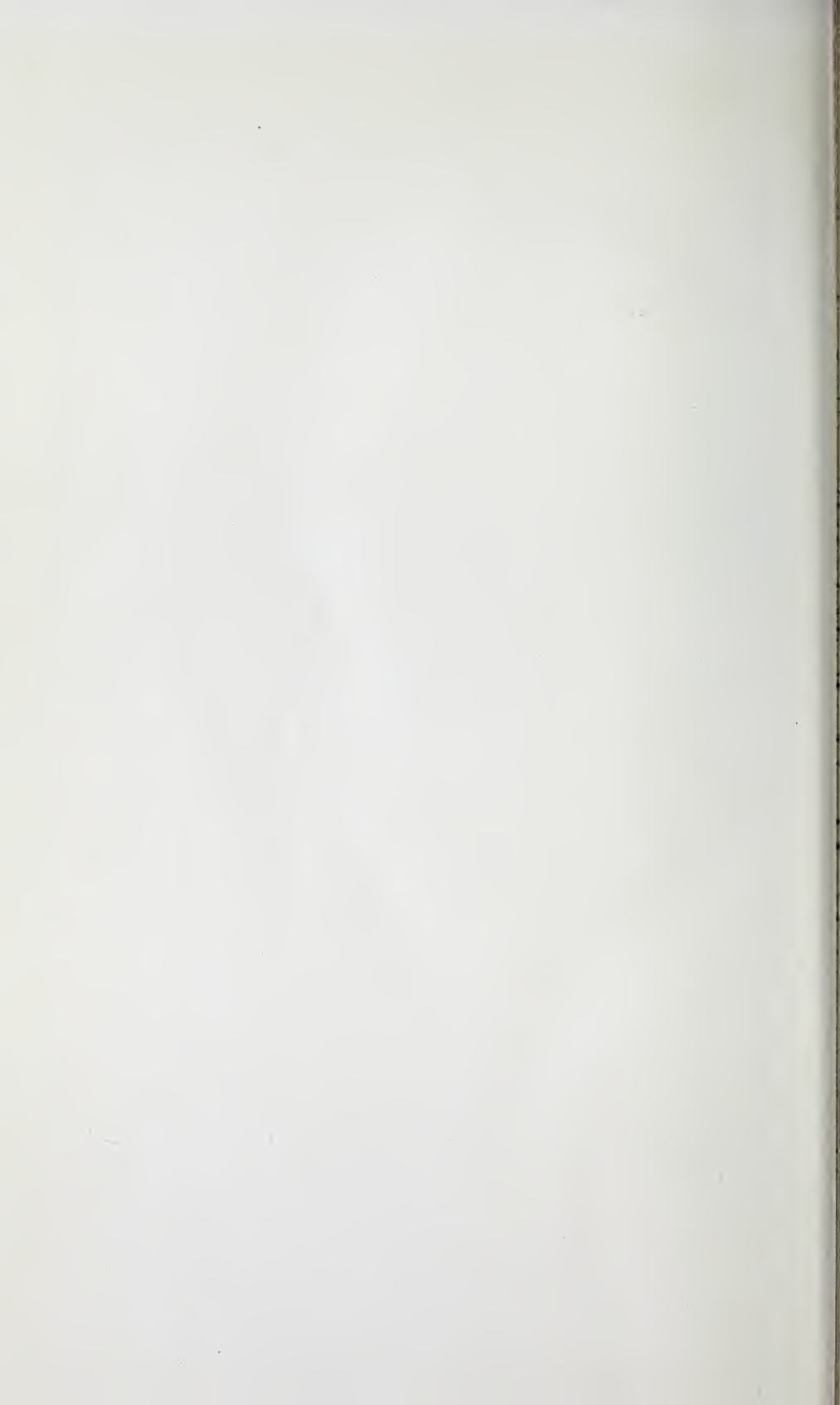
How, in other words, does the "new" come to be? The answer, I think, lies in the "old." The "new" is not a radical break with the "old," but a continuation of it, a new way of seeing the world, a new way of thinking about the world, a new way of feeling about the world.

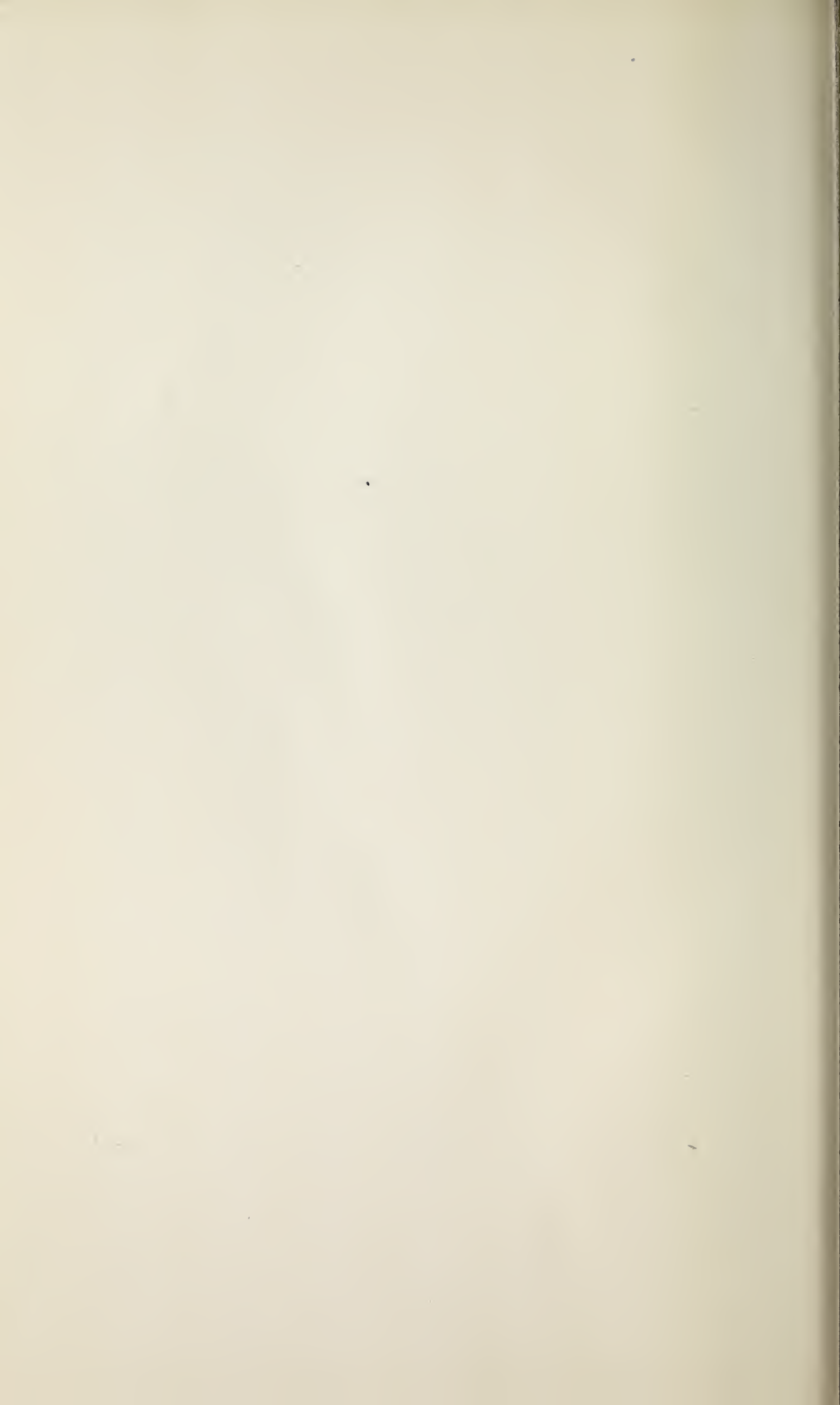
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Mrs. Webb, General
 Adams of Portland, Maine
 and Portland, N. H.

Norristown Centennial, May 10, 1912

Fac-simile of the Philadelphia Press, May 11, 1912.







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